



**ICO Coffee Development Report 2019**  
***Growing for Prosperity: Economic***  
***viability as the catalyst for a sustainable***  
***coffee sector***

**Background**

The Executive Director presents his compliments and has the pleasure of circulating the Coffee Development Report 2019, the first issue of the new economic flagship publication of the ICO, “Growing for Prosperity: Economic viability as the catalyst for a sustainable coffee sector.” The International Coffee Council, at its 121<sup>st</sup> Session held in Mexico in April 2018, approved the introduction of an annual theme for the ICO’s work to align all its activities and to publish an in-depth flagship report every year. After the publication of a pilot flagship report on coffee and gender in September 2018, the Coffee Development Report is the first of the new series and will be published every coffee year.

This year’s report – providing an analytical underpinning to the Structured Sector-Wide Dialogue, a process initiated by the ICO as part of the implementation of Resolution 465 –, presents an in-depth analysis of the root causes and impact of the coffee price levels and volatility. It contains an independent assessment of 50 possible actions to address the economic challenges and foster the long-term sustainability of the coffee sector.

This first Coffee Development Report is based on analysis of ICO data and information from external sources and seeks to offer a framework to capture the complex nature of the coffee market. It builds on and complements other ICO studies, as well as drawing on the outcomes of the structured sector-wide dialogue in which 80 experts and 2,000 participants were involved in five consultative events organized by the ICO in Nairobi, at the United Nations in New York City, in Rome at the EXCO Development Expo and at the European Commission in Brussels.

Through rigorous quantitative analysis, the relationship between coffee farming and socio-economic indicators, such as poverty and food security, is examined. The solutions identified seek to address low price levels and price volatility in order to meet the long-term sustainability goals set out in the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The publication of the ICO's Coffee Development Report represents a significant advancement in the ICO's function as a global forum for discussion on coffee policies. It is envisaged the Coffee Development Report will help to strengthen the Organization's role as the major and neutral source of coffee data and analytics and to set the agenda in the global debate on issues related to the development of the coffee sector.

The Report also reaffirms the commitment of the ICO in supporting its Members and all coffee stakeholders to achieve inclusive and sustainable development and to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. A key message of the report is that the sustainable and inclusive development of the coffee sector requires major shifts, through enhanced sector-level cooperation based on shared values and responsibilities and an alignment of actions, funding and schemes through pre-competitive action, public-private partnerships and investments.

The Coffee Development Report 2019 has been prepared by the ICO team with contributions from Aidenvironment, and Newcastle University. The ICO wishes also to express its thanks and appreciation to the contributions and financial support received from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. ICO team members also wish to recognize the hard work of coffee farmers and their families who have inspired and motivated the preparation of this Report, as well as of all coffee stakeholders and coffee lovers.

### **Copies of the full Coffee Development Report**

The full Coffee Development Report 2019 is available in English only. A hard copy will be distributed to ICO Members, and is also available to download free of charge at: <https://www.internationalcoffeecouncil.org/eng/coffee-development-report.php>.