

Implementation of the NAMA Support Project – Low Carbon Coffee Costa Rica



Nearly all of Costa Rica's coffee plantations are situated at high altitudes, guaranteeing exquisite quality.

In Costa Rica, the production of coffee contributes 9% to total national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Costa Rica's coffee plantations cover an area of more than 90,000 hectares and are situated between 600 and 1,600 metres above sea level. The coffee sector comprises 50,000 producers, 230 coffee mills, 57 exporters and 37 coffee toasters, representing 8 % of the Costa Rican workforce.

To reach the Costa Rican goal of carbon neutrality in 2021 and contribute to international climate protection efforts, the country has developed the first agricultural Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) in the world that is ready for implementation. It aims to reduce GHG emissions and improve the efficient use of resources at both coffee plantations and in coffee mills in order to create the first low-emission coffee worldwide. The Low Carbon Coffee NAMA Support Project (NSP) is part of the wider NAMA Café in Costa Rica.

Project goal

The overarching goal of the Costa Rican NAMA Café is to produce and process coffee in a sustainable low-emission manner, thereby promoting the long-term transformation of the whole coffee sector. There are three specific objectives:

1. to reduce GHG emissions in production and processing;
2. to produce and process high quality coffee in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner, providing an adequate income to farmers and preserving natural resources;
3. to leverage additional public and private financing for investments in innovative technologies and practices.

Methodological approach

The NSP combines instruments of technical and financial cooperation and will focus on:

- strengthening the technical and institutional capacities at national level to facilitate the inclusion of and coordination with the private sector;
- regions with high importance to the coffee sector that serve as a model in order to replicate the approach in other geographical areas;
- the main actors along the coffee production value chain who can contribute greatly to emission reductions in the sector;
- creating essential framework conditions that enable sustainable transformational change in the coffee sector.

On behalf of



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation,
Building and Nuclear Safety



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

In technical terms, emissions will be reduced by changing the type and application scheme of fertilisers and by introducing agroforestry. On the processing side, water will be reused and recycled and by-products of milling will be composted and used as fertiliser or as fuel for the coffee roasting process.

The target groups include at least 6,000 producers on 25,000 hectares land and about 50 coffee mills.

Technical and financial cooperation

The technical cooperation (TC) component focuses on:

1. awareness raising and capacity building measures for coffee farmers and coffee mill operators to implement sustainable low-emission technologies and practices;

2. the establishment of a cost-efficient MRV system at the farm, mill and national level;
3. developing marketing strategies for cooperatives and coffee mills to help position themselves in the international market.

The financial cooperation (FC) component provides:

1. a fast-track procedure of investment subsidies for low-emission technologies;
2. the establishment of a ‘NAMA fund’ at BCIE as a credit fund and a guarantee facility for commercial banks financing low-emission investments in the coffee sector.

To learn more about the Costa Rican Low Carbon Coffee NSP, its ambition and transformational potential please visit www.nama-facility.org/projects.

Facts

Project title	Low Carbon Coffee Costa Rica
NAMA Facility funding volume	€ 7 million
Project duration	2015 – 2019
Responsible Ministries	Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE) Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG)
Delivery Organisation	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Implementing partners	ICAFE ¹ , BCIE ²
Status	under implementation

1 Instituto de Café de Costa Rica

2 Banco Centroamericano de Integración Económica

Cooperation Partners



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For further information: www.nama-facility.org/projects

