



In this project, hill farmers - who live in the upper catchment (3000m) of the coffee growing area in Piura - reforest the region which reduces erosion and improves the water storing capacity that benefits coffee farmers downstream. Also, they improve their livelihoods by creating a wood based economy through sustainable forest management. Furthermore, the trees planted sequester CO₂ at an average of 22 kilos per tree per year.

Background

Rural development and agriculture in the Piura region in Peru are highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change. Due to deforestation in the upper regions of Sierra Piura, the downstream coffee farms are affected by erosion and productivity decrease. These farms are in the hands of smallholder coffee farmers with less than 3 hectares each. Like most smallholders worldwide, these farmers have little financial capacity to make investments in their farms nor in their environment.

Reforestation program

In 2011, coffee cooperative Norandino and Progreso Foundation started a reforestation program in close cooperation with 11 farmer communities (appr. 400 families) who live in the upper catchment of the coffee growing area. In total, over 200 hectares of forest has been planted. This reforestation program is the first of its kind to be certified by Gold Standard and Fairtrade Climate Standard. Thanks to this carbon credit payment scheme, a sustainable reforestation program, a capacity building program and an employment program for farming families have been developed.

Additional activities are also being financed by carbon credits, such as the construction of fish ponds, vegetable gardens and mushroom farms that help create a varied diet for farmers' families. Finally, investments (through revenue sharing) are made in adaptation measures for the downstream coffee farms, like enrichment planting with shade trees and improved pruning techniques. In this way, coffee production systems become more sustainable, more productive and generate higher-quality coffee.

Ambition

Due to the needs of the communities in the upper catchment, FairClimateFund and Norandino have set up a joint ambition to realize another 500 hectares of forest in the coming 5 years. This will sequester over 100,000 tonnes of CO₂ in 35 years. In addition to scaling up the program, maintenance - like pruning and thinning - and training in sustainable forest management are required to achieve good growth and sustainable exploitation. In this way, the environment will be protected and a wood based economy that creates jobs and income for the local population will be established.

More information:

www.fairclimatefund.nl/en/projects/peru-reforestation-for-coffee-farmers

**542,168**

Trees planted

**2,370**

Coffee farmers helped

**12,000**Tonnes of CO₂ reduced



Benefits of the project

Contribution to the SDG's

Health

- Non-forestry related activities, such as the construction of fishponds, diversify diets for coffee farmers.
- Edible mushrooms are growing in the tree plantations which provide extra nutrition for coffee farmers.



Climate and environment

- Reforestation activities contribute to a decrease in soil erosion and reduce the pressure on remaining natural areas.
- The native tree species *polylepis incana* and *alnus jorullensis* that are replanted, have a positive impact on biodiversity in the long term. Additional research will help to support biodiversity development.



Social

- The plantations are located on land that is unsuitable for agricultural activities so there is no competition with local food production.
- Communities incl. women are organized in reforestation committees and closely involved in the planning and execution of the program.



Economic

- As trees grow; pruning, thinning and sustainable timber production will generate jobs and income for the communities involved.
- Adaptation measures improve the climate resilience of coffee farms which increases sustainability, production and generates higher-quality coffee.



"THANKS TO THE PROJECT, I CAN IMPROVE MY FARM AND COFFEE PRODUCTION"



Do you want more information about this project?

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This project is Gold Standard and Fairtrade certified.

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