



Coffee Innovation Fund – Uganda

Supporting innovative and scalable solutions to increase profitability and market access of small-holder coffee farmers

Biogas technologies for clean energy and organic manure for increased coffee production

Mt Elgon Women in Specialty Coffee Limited is largely a women enterprise, directly working with 15 farmer groups comprising of 408 coffee farmers growing arabica coffee in Kapchorwa district.

Declining coffee production

The supply of good quality Arabica coffee from Eastern Uganda is on the decline. In Kapchorwa and surrounding districts this is partly attributed to the use of unprocessed coffee pulps for manure. This untreated fertilizer often promotes the spread of pests and diseases such as white stem borer and coffee berry disease.

In addition, deforestation of coffee trees and other vegetation accelerates soil erosion and threatens the sustainability of coffee production and intensifies the effects of climate change and weather variability.

Biogas Solution

Coffee pulp waste from wet coffee processing will be collected and fermented in the bio-digesters. Through the decomposition process, clean organic manure will be produced, free of pests and other disease-causing organisms. The organic manure produced will facilitate recycling of the nutrients which will improve the quality of soil resulting in higher yields and incomes for farmers.

Furthermore, the gas produced in the bio-digesters will provide renewable and sustainable clean cooking energy for smallholder coffee farmers.



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Project overview

Term: 2021-2022
Region: Eastern region, Uganda
Partner: Mt Elgon Women in Specialty Coffee Limited
Volume: 50,000 Euros (supported by the fund)
121,430 Euros (total volume)

Goals

- ❖ Reduce the spread of pests and disease-causing organisms in coffee farms.
- ❖ Reduce environmental degradation and promote sustainable coffee production.
- ❖ Increase coffee production and incomes of coffee farmers.

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Implemented by:
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