

Vietnam: Coffee

INTRODUCTION

Since the reunification of North and South Vietnam in 1976 the country inspires millions of tourists from around the world every year not only with its natural beauty and rich culture, but also with its authentic Vietnamese coffee. Even though Vietnamese coffee is well-regarded and well-known around the globe, few know that Vietnamese coffee beans are the main source of livelihood for the coffee growers and their families in Vietnam. Vietnam is the second biggest exporter of coffee in term of value, globally, and 80% of local coffee growers are smallholder farmers.

Challenges

- Smallholder farmers are vulnerable to challenges such as lack of finance, adverse climate impacts, irrigation management, pests and crop diseases, rural migration and fluctuating commodity prices. Due to these challenges, they actualize just a fraction of their potential productivity
- Smallholders lack access to modern agricultural knowledge, solutions and markets
- Coffee growers are in need of financial support in order to get capital freedom and eventually generate more income

PROJECT

- Since its launch in April 2018 numerous local partners have joined the project to support coffee growers in Vietnam
- ECOM provides trainings on seed and land preparation
- YARA & Baconco have come on board as fertilization instructors
- Khang Think Irrigation Technology JSC (KT) provides irrigation expertise
- ECOM has been sharing harvesting and storage techniques with growers in Vietnam
- Local partner ACOM is also actively involved in the project

Successes

- The Better Life Farming project involved 190 coffee growers in Vietnam in 2018
- The coffee growers farmed 300 hectares of farmland
- In 2018, 5 trainings were offered for coffee growers in Vietnam
- In LacDuong District, an incremental yield of 33% was achieved and in Di Linh District, an incremental yield of 29% was achieved in comparison to farmer practices in the region