

Coffee Innovation Fund – Uganda

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

Rainwater harvesting for wet coffee processing

Nyabuswa Coffee Farmers Association (NCOFA) was registered in 2014. It has 1,339 members clustered into 40 producer groups growing Arabica Coffee in Mugusu and Karangura sub county on the slopes of Mt Rwenzori in Kabarole district, Western Uganda.

Harvesting water during the rainy season

Coffee ripens during the rainy season which starts in September and ends in December. The heavy rains make it difficult to dry coffee to the required moisture content. Furthermore, coffee dried in the solar drier at the processing center attracts lower prices in comparison to parchment coffee.

Even though the association produces 3,000 Metric Tons of coffee, it can only process 10% of the coffee produced by members. Smallholders end up selling unprocessed coffee to middlemen due to the lack of appropriate processing infrastructure.

Under ground water tanks

The association will construct underground water tanks with a capacity of 20,000 liters. The rainwater harvested will facilitate wet processing and increase the association's processing capacity to 70-80% of the coffee produced by members. Introducing wet processing at household level will increase the quality of coffee produced by coffee farmers at farm level and supply coffee exporters.

In the long run the quality of coffee will improve, and smallholder farmers will receive greater economic benefits from farming.





🅜 Goals

- Introduce wet coffee processing at household level
- Build the capacity of youth and women in construction of rainwater harvesting and storage technologies
- Increase farmer incomes from coffee production per year



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