

SUVASE

## SUSTAINABILITY AND VALUE ADDED IN AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY CHAINS IN ETHIOPIA

**In the birthplace of coffee arabica in Western Ethiopia, SUVASE aims to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and protect the unique environment.**

### THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME “SUSTAINABILITY AND VALUE ADDED IN AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY CHAINS” (GP AGRICHAINS)

**GP AgriChains promotes fair and sustainable agricultural supply chains worldwide. AgriChains contributes to better living and working conditions for people in agricultural supply chains and a healthy planet for everyone. It also promotes equality and inclusivity across supply chains. The programme cooperates with market drivers in various supply chains, e.g. cocoa, coffee, cotton. Together with global companies, international standards organisations, and national partners, it implements project activities in almost 30 countries.**



**August 2020 – March 2026**

**Project name** Sustainability and Value Added in Agricultural Supply Chains in Ethiopia (SUVASE)

**Commissioned by** German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

**Project region** Nono Sale, Didu, Alle and Becho districts in the Illubabor zone and Mana district in Jimma zone, Oromia region

**Lead executing agency** Ethiopian Coffee and Tea Authority (ECTA)



**Financial volume** 5,900,000 EUR

### THE CHALLENGE

Coffee accounts for 25% of Ethiopia's export revenue and supports 4.7 million smallholder farmers, yet many struggle to maintain a decent standard of living. Women are excluded from decision-making and lack institutional support.

The sector faces challenges like child labor and deforestation. Worldwide, 1.9 million hectares, an area twice the size of Kinshasa, the largest city in Africa, were lost to coffee production between 2001–2015. Emerging regulations, such as the EUDR, LkSG, and CSDDD, are raising the bar on corporate accountability for human rights and environmental impact across global supply chains.

### OUR APPROACH

The “Sustainability and Value Added in Agricultural Supply Chains in Ethiopia” (SUVASE) project aims to improve sustainability within Ethiopia's coffee value chain by supporting 38 cooperatives with more than 8,000 members in the Illubabor zone as well as 2,000 coffee outgrowers in the Jimma zone in the Oromia region of Ethiopia.

SUVASE works with farmers, producer organizations and processors to improve coffee yields and quality through climate-smart Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and better post-harvest methods. In partnership with the Jimma Agricultural Research Centre, SUVASE offers access for farmers to knowledge and resources for sustainable production. The project also supports Participatory Forest Management (PFM) groups and established a forest monitoring system for forest coffee production.

SUVASE supports producer organisations in obtaining international certifications, implementing traceability systems, and improving marketing capabilities to enhance market access. Through partnerships with the private sector, environmental, social, and economic sustainability in the Ethiopian coffee supply chain is increased. Since 2023, we have worked on the policy level, developing recommendations to improve gender equality along the supply chain. We are supporting Ethiopia in creating an environment that enables supply chain actors to comply with new regulations, ensuring continued access to German and European markets. In collaboration with the Ethiopian Coffee and Tea Authority (ECTA), we bring together stakeholders to develop viable,



INTERVENTION AREAS OF GIZ SUVASE. THIS CARTOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION DOES NOT IMPLICATE A STATEMENT ON THE LEGAL STATUS OF SOVEREIGN TERRITORIES OR BOUNDARIES.

institutionally embedded solutions for due diligence compliance.

## WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

**More than 1,640 farmers**



**extended their knowledge on GAP, productivity increase, and quality and have access to improved drying beds, warehouses, and tools.**

**More than 200 women**  
participated in specifically designed trainings



**which improved their life, business, and post-harvest management skills.**

**10 cooperatives**  
were certified according to the EU organic standard.



**11 cooperatives**  
were certified  
with the Rainforest Alliance standard

**29 cooperatives** and over  
**3,500 farmers**



**registered their coffee deliveries in a traceability system.**

**More than 70 Participatory Forest Management members**



**have been trained in forest management with a Training of Trainers approach.**

AgriChains is part of the Sustainable Agricultural Supply Chains Initiative (SASI).  
<https://www.sustainable-supply-chains.org>



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