

Topicsheet

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 Partners: Sangana Commodities Limited
 GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für
 Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH)
 Additional Partners: 4C Association, Tchibo GmbH
 World Bank



Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in the Kenyan Coffee Sector

Background

Climate change is affecting the weather patterns in many East African countries. Climate impact models predict that Kenya will suffer severe consequences from a warming of temperatures such as prolonged drought periods. One of the economic sectors most affected by these changes is coffee production. Due to the gradual impoverishment of agricultural systems caused by changes in climatic conditions, coffee production has declined, negatively affecting the incomes of coffee farmers.

Greenhouse gases (GHG) are major contributors to climate change. Burning of fossil fuels and clearing of land are key contributors to increasing GHG emissions. Agricultural land use systems and the application of sustainable agricultural practices help to prevent climate change by storing these emissions within production systems. In this way, coffee producers can contribute to mitigation of climate change – even through small scale farming.

In order to strengthen their agricultural systems against changing climatic conditions and to exploit the potential for reducing emissions, smallholder coffee farmers need to acquire a set of good agricultural practices, enhanced framework conditions and access to climate information. Most of the producers do not possess these capabilities and do not have the possibility to participate in globally recognised standards as a) they lack finances and knowledge to prepare for certification, and b) there is no internationally recognised coffee standard that incorporates climate aspects yet.

Strategy

The three-year Development Partnership (PPP) between **Sangana Commodities Ltd.** and the **German International Cooperation (GIZ)**, on behalf of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, aims to support Kenyan coffee smallholders in adapting to climate change and incorporating climate change mitigation where possible.

Climate change impacts on many actors along the coffee value chain and various actors have already taken first steps to address climate change. In order to have a bigger impact the Development Partnership cooperates with further strategically important additional partners such as the **4C Association**, the **World Bank**, **Tchibo GmbH**, **Rainforest Alliance**, **Efico**, the **Baragwi Farmers' Cooperative Society (BFCS)** and **Sustainable Management Services Ltd.**

Approach

Sangana Commodities Ltd., the Kenyan coffee exporter of the ECOM Group, has joined forces with GIZ as they were already feeling the effects of climate change on their coffee supply chains with negative impacts on quantity and quality. The aim is to support coffee producers to adapt their production to the changing climate and to create and use synergies between adaptation and mitigation means. This goal will be reached by developing an additional component to the existing 4C Code of Conduct taking into account climate aspects.

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The 4C Association already has three components (social, environmental, economic) in its Code of Conduct. The PPP will develop an additional voluntary component which means any coffee producer group opting for the 4C standard will have to gradually comply with the existing three components whereas they can opt to comply with the fourth one: the climate component. This climate component consists of agricultural practices for adaptation and mitigation, trainings for producers and verifiers, verification instruments and a climate data base and will be tested together with Baragwi Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd. as a pilot group.

The 4C Association, the World Bank, Tchibo GmbH, Rainforest Alliance, Efico, Baragwi Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd. and Sustainable Management Services Ltd. bring in further experience and knowledge the project will greatly benefit from. Each of these actors has a different role along the coffee value chain and has already taken various steps to tackle climate change within the coffee sector. Bringing together the expertise of these actors will ensure project success.

Activities of the project include:

- Identifying climate relevant agricultural practices for adaptation and mitigation purposes
- Developing a climate code with principles and indicators for verification
- Sensitization of the pilot group and further stakeholders regarding climate change impacts and possible adaptation and mitigation measures
- Developing and testing necessary trainings for the implementation of the climate code

- Verification of BFCS under the climate component
- Exploring possibilities on how to transfer project results to other commodities such as cotton and cocoa

Expected outcomes and impacts of the project:

- Increasing coffee yields and quality
- Increasing income from coffee production
- Decreasing climate vulnerability of the coffee ecosystems
- Access for coffee producer organizations to an internationally recognized standard considering climate change aspects
- Trained extension staff and verifiers for climate change adaptation and mitigation in the Kenyan coffee sector

Innovation

As mentioned climate change is affecting all actors along the coffee value chain. Although the impacts for each actor might be different, all actors agree upon necessity of intervention. Producers are in the need to strengthen their coffee ecosystems, the industry needs to secure the long-term quantity and quality of their product as well as to respond to national and international environmental and climate legislation and standard organizations are in the need to provide answers on sustainability aspects – which climate change is threatening in the coffee sector.

A combined innovative approach by all actors is needed to adequately address climate change in coffee production adequately. The project takes a first step towards a new sustainability in the coffee sector: one that does not only consider environmental, social and ecological issues but also climate aspects.

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