



Uganda Coffee Development Authority

COFFEE NEWS

Your quarterly publication highlighting the activities in the Uganda Coffee subsector

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Hon. Frank Tumwebaze Engages Coffee Stakeholders on EU Deforestation Regulation



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Urges Coffee
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Coffee Potential:
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A New Innovative
Approach –
The CoCoDev
Matching Grant
Scheme (MGS)

Understanding the European Union Regulation on Deforestation-Free Products (EUDR)



What is the European Union Regulation on Deforestation-Free Products?

The European Union Regulation on Deforestation-free products (EUDR) is a legislative measure adopted in 2023 by the EU to prevent products linked to deforestation and forest degradation from entering the EU market. The regulation is part of the EU's broader efforts to combat climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation. It targets seven commodities: coffee, cocoa, wood, palm oil, soy, rubber, and beef as well as products derived from these commodities whether imported or produced within the EU.

Why does EUDR matter to Uganda's Coffee Value Chain Actors?

Uganda's coffee sub-sector is vital to the economy and all value chain actors. With over 60% of the country's coffee exported to the EU market, compliance with the regulation is crucial to maintain market access and ensure the long-term viability of the sub-sector. The EUDR supports Uganda's sustainable coffee objectives, accelerating progress towards coffee traceability and sustainability.

What are the EUDR requirements for Ugandan Coffee Exports?

Ugandan coffee and its derivatives shall not be placed on the EU market unless it is:



Deforestation-Free – the production of coffee was done on land that was not subject to deforestation or forest degradation after 30th December 2020.



Produced in accordance with the relevant laws of Uganda



Traceable – Operators will be required to trace coffee through the entire value chain. The geolocation data must be specific enough to trace the coffee back to its exact place of origin, ensuring that it complies with the EUDR cut-off date for deforestation



Covered by a Due Diligence Statement – exporters must provide a due diligence statement for each batch of coffee placed on the EU market.

What actions should coffee value chain actors take to ensure compliance?

All coffee value players are urged to take immediate action to ensure compliance with the EUDR regulation. Here's how:

EU Operators and Importers

1.

Ensure that the coffee imported into the EU is deforestation-free and complies with the EUDR requirements.

2.

Conduct due diligence, which includes tracing the product's origin, assessing the risk of deforestation, and implementing measures to mitigate any identified risks.

3.

Provide evidence and documentation that demonstrates compliance with the EUDR when requested by authorities.

Farmers and traders

1.

Provide the necessary documentation and information about the origin of the coffee. Register and acquire a unique identifier.

2.

Farmers need to cooperate with importers by providing accurate data on land use, deforestation status, and compliance with sustainable practices.

3.

Adopt sustainable agriculture practices, such as shade-grown coffee and agroforestry, to reduce deforestation risks

All value chain actors

1. Register with UCDA and integrate with the national traceability system to ensure transparency and accountability.
2. Participate in capacity building and training programs to enhance your skills and knowledge.

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK
Denmark in Uganda



FOREWORD

As we unveil the July-September 2024 edition of the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) newsletter, we are excited to share our progress and ongoing initiatives that are shaping the future of Uganda's coffee sector. This quarter has been particularly significant as we prepare for compliance with the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), which is set to take effect on December 30, 2024.

The EUDR presents challenges and opportunities for our coffee industry, which plays a vital role in Uganda's economy. With over 60% of our coffee exports destined for the EU, we must adopt sustainable practices that ensure traceability and protect our environment. Our recent stakeholder engagements, led by the Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Hon. Frank Tumwebaze, have emphasised the need for collaboration among farmers, processors, and government bodies to meet these stringent requirements.

I take this opportunity to thank all our stakeholders for their tireless efforts in ensuring that Uganda coffee continues to thrive and continue to shine on the global market. Uganda is currently the 7th largest exporter of coffee worldwide, with exports valued at \$1.14 Billion in the Financial Year 2023/24.

The quality of Ugandan coffee has improved significantly due to initiatives by UCDA, which promotes sustainable practices and quality control. Continued adherence to these practices will not only maintain but also elevate Uganda's standing in the global coffee market.

In this edition, you will also find highlights from our Coffee Day celebrations in Gulu, showcasing Northern Uganda's immense potential in coffee production as well as an innovative initiative from the Cocoa and Coffee Development (CoCoDev) Programme Matching Grant Scheme which is aimed at enhancing the resilience of coffee and cocoa farmers.

As we move forward, I urge all stakeholders to actively participate in the registration process and embrace sustainable farming practices. The establishment of a national coffee register is crucial for ensuring compliance and maintaining access to international markets. Together, we can navigate these regulatory changes and secure a prosperous future for Uganda's coffee industry.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to excellence in coffee production.

Dr. Emmanuel Iyamulemye Niyibigira

Managing Director - Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA)

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Hon. Frank Tumwebaze Engages Coffee Stakeholders on EU Deforestation Regulation

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries (MAAIF), led by Minister Hon. Frank Tumwebaze, held a meeting with stakeholders from the coffee subsector to discuss the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), which will be enforceable from December 30, 2024 (with a later date of June 30, 2025, for micro and small companies). The regulation requires strict compliance to maintain Uganda's coffee exports to the European market, one of the country's largest trading partners.

The meeting, held at Mestil Hotel in Kampala, was attended by representatives of the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA), farmers, processors, development partners and other key players in the coffee value chain. The discussions focused on preparing Uganda's coffee industry to meet the EU's stringent standards, particularly concerning traceability and deforestation-free supply chains.

The private sector presented an overview of Uganda's current compliance status with the EUDR. They highlighted ongoing initiatives aimed at enhancing traceability and sustainability within the coffee supply chain in partnership with UCDA. A dedicated implementation unit has been established which is co-chaired by UCDA and the private sector to oversee the EUDR implementation process. The unit includes representatives from the private sector, ministries, departments, agencies, and other stakeholders. In addition, UCDA is running national workshops to educate stakeholders on EUDR compliance, focusing on awareness and capacity building which are crucial for successful implementation.

The presentation also noted that through support from development



Hon. Frank Tumwebaze emphasised the government's commitment to supporting the coffee subsector in navigating these new requirements. He recognised the complexities of public policy but reiterated that clear strategies and collaboration would ensure Uganda's coffee remains globally competitive.

Hon Tumwebaze at the EUDR stakeholder engagement with the private sector.

partners, registration of value chain actors is expected to begin in October. However, they stressed that further efforts are needed to ensure comprehensive compliance by the deadline. The registration of value chain actors is a precursor to the establishment of a national coffee register which is a requirement of the National Coffee Act 2021. It is also critical in ensuring traceability and

access to the EU market. Registration of farmers will involve capturing farm geo-locations and farmer details, with larger farms requiring more detailed polygon mapping. The EU regulation requires that importers of coffee into the EU show evidence that the coffee does not contribute to deforestation or forest degradation.

In his remarks, Hon. Frank Tumwebaze emphasised the government's commitment to supporting the coffee subsector in navigating these new requirements. He recognised the complexities of public policy but reiterated that clear strategies and collaboration would ensure Uganda's coffee remains globally competitive.

The EU Program Manager, Alain



EU Program Manager, Alain Castermans speaking at the EUDR stakeholder engagement between Minister for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries and private sector.

Castermans, speaking on behalf of the European Union, clarified that the regulation aims to protect the environment while ensuring that

African coffee producers, including those in Uganda, continue to access the European market. He stressed the importance of farmer registration and robust traceability systems to comply with the new standards, encouraging stakeholders to expedite these efforts.

Mr. Odrek Rwabogo, Chairman of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Exports and Industrial Development (PACEID), echoed the importance of accurate data collection and its role in maintaining market reliability. He highlighted challenges in collecting and managing agricultural data across sectors and called for a concerted effort to strengthen these systems.

One of the key takeaways from the meeting was the urgent need to register at least 1,000,000 coffee farmers by the end of the year. This process is essential for meeting the EU's traceability standards and will involve close coordination between MAAIF, UCDA, local governments, and other stakeholders.

The meeting concluded with actionable plans to create awareness about the regulations, register farmers, and ensure compliance through improved data management systems.

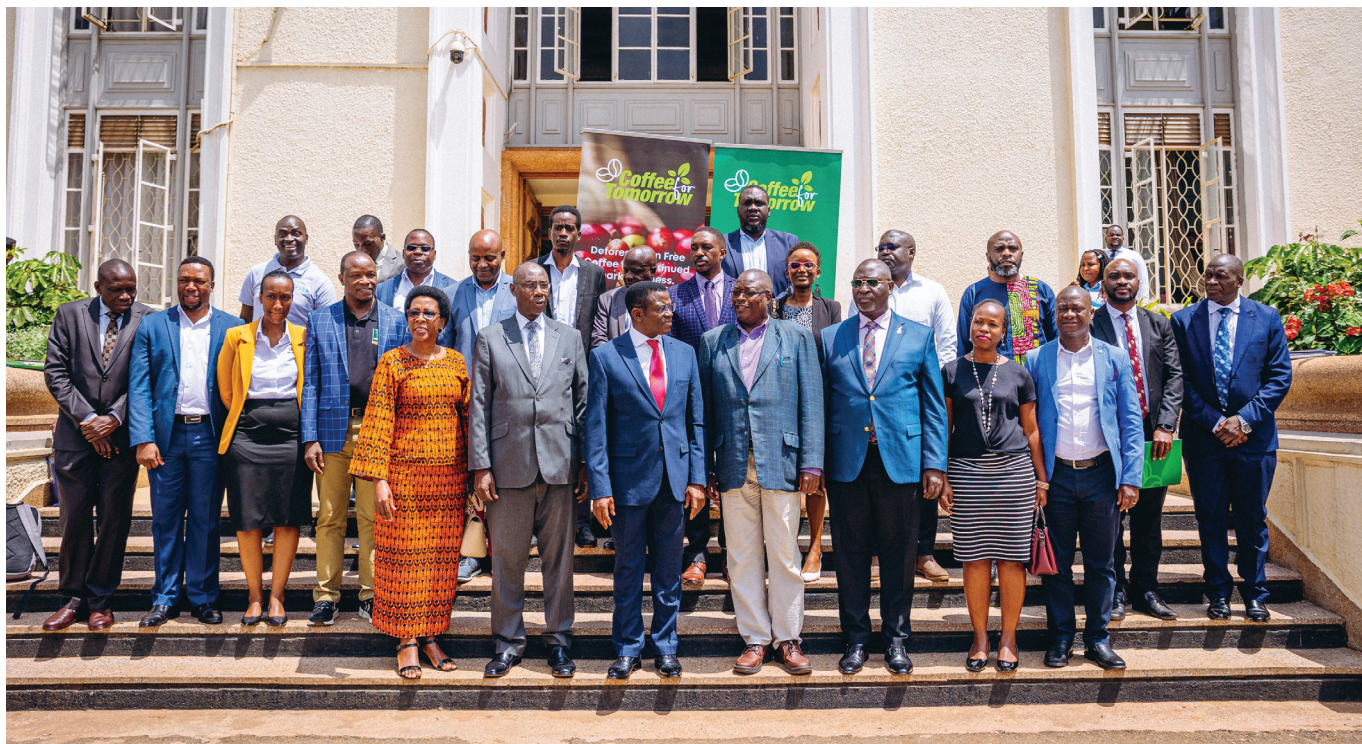
Note: Ongoing discussions are currently taking place regarding a proposed extension of the EUDR compliance deadlines. On October 2, 2024, the European Commission suggested a one-year delay for large companies until December 30, 2025, and until June 30, 2026, for micro and small enterprises. This proposal aims to provide additional time for effective implementation and will require approval from both the European Parliament and Council before it can take effect. 🟢



Odrek Rwabogo addressing stakeholders at Mestil during the EUDR stakeholder engagement.



Some of the invited guests at the stakeholder engagement.



The Katikkiro of Buganda, Owek. Charles Peter Mayiga and members of the kingdom pose for a photo after the meeting with officials from UCDA, aBi Development and the national EUDR task force.

Katikkiro Mayiga Urges Coffee Farmers to Register

The Katikkiro of the Buganda Kingdom, Charles Peter Mayiga, emphasised the importance of registering coffee farmers during a recent meeting with stakeholders at Bulange, Mengo. This initiative is crucial as Uganda prepares to meet the European Union's Deforestation-free products Regulation (EUDR) requirements, set to take full effect by the end of 2024.

The European Union represents a primary export market for Ugandan coffee, with over 60% exported to Italy, Germany, Spain, Belgium, Portugal, Russia, Switzerland, Sweden and the Netherlands. With the looming deadline for compliance to EUDR set as 30th December 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Uganda Coffee Development Authority, private sector coffee value chain actors and

development partners have prioritised registration to enable traceability of Uganda's coffee and prove that the source farms have not contributed to deforestation or forest degradation. Traceability will also confirm that coffee farming in Uganda is environmentally friendly and sustainable.

According to the EU deforestation regulation, all products exported to the EU market must be deforestation-free; must have been produced under Uganda's relevant legislation; and must

be accompanied by a due diligence statement containing geolocation data adhering to traceability standards that enable buyers to trace each batch of coffee back to its designated land plot. This will necessitate registration of all coffee value chain actors.

Importance of Registration

The National Coffee Act, 2021 provides for the establishment of a national register for coffee value chain actors. The registration of coffee value chain actors is a precursor for a

National Traceability System which is essential for supporting coffee farmers, enhancing sustainability, improving market access, and ensuring compliance with both local legislation and international regulations. Enumerators will gather information from stakeholders at no cost to the latter. Registration is not to serve any other purpose apart from enabling the development of the value chain and access to global markets. Extension outreaches and information dissemination are made easier when farmers are registered.

Regulatory Framework and Requirements

During the stakeholder engagement with the Buganda kingdom, Dr. Gerald Kyalo, UCDA's Director of Development



Dr. Gerald Kyalo, UCDA's Director of Development Services, reiterated the EU regulation's impact on Uganda's coffee trade with the European nations. Under this regulation, exporters must provide documentation proving their coffee is sourced from compliant land.

Services, reiterated the EU regulation's impact on Uganda's coffee trade with the European nations. Under this regulation, exporters must provide documentation proving their coffee is sourced from compliant land. This

includes detailed land use maps and a due diligence statement indicating minimal risk of non-compliance. The regulation covers not only coffee but also other agricultural commodities such as cocoa, palm oil, and rubber and their derivatives.

Dr. Kyalo explained that compliance with the EUDR will require a comprehensive approach to traceability within Uganda's coffee supply chain. "Enumerators will visit all coffee farms, recording essential data required for EUDR compliance verification," he noted. This data collection will include geo-locations of coffee plots and other critical information ensuring that coffee production adheres to sustainable practices.



The Katikkiro addressing the meeting.

Collaborative Efforts

For a successful registration exercise, Dr. Kyalo stressed the need for collaboration among industry stakeholders and leaders from various sectors—including cultural, religious, administrative, and political figures. He also pointed out that any expansion of coffee cultivation must comply with EUDR standards to prevent deforestation.

Katikkiro Mayiga supported Dr. Kyalo's call for cooperation, asserting that it is vital to educate farmers about the benefits of registration. "We are going to join hands with the government to ensure that coffee is not grown on deforested land," he stated. He emphasised that understanding the registration process is crucial for farmers' livelihoods.

Economic Implications

Mayiga warned that failure to comply with the EU deforestation regulation could lead to market access issues, affecting prices and living standards for farmers who rely on coffee for their income. "If the EU market is blocked, prices will fall, and farmers may struggle to afford decent accommodation or pay school fees," he cautioned. This highlights the interconnectedness of sustainable agricultural practices and economic stability in rural communities.

To facilitate this transition, Mayiga called on UCDA to focus on effective communication strategies aimed at farmers. "We have to inform them that this is not targeting them but about anything grown on land and exported to Europe," he explained. He underscored the importance of raising awareness about how compliance can lead to better market opportunities and higher quality standards.



The Katikkiro of Buganda, Owek. Charles Peter Mayiga.



Katikkiro Mayiga supported Dr. Kyalo's call for cooperation, asserting that it is vital to educate farmers about the benefits of registration. "We are going to join hands with the government to ensure that coffee is not grown on deforested land," he stated.

Looking Ahead

As Uganda moves closer to meeting these regulatory requirements, both Mayiga and Dr. Kyalo expressed optimism about the potential benefits of sustainable farming practices. They believe that by adhering to international standards, Ugandan coffee can enhance its reputation in global markets and attract more lucrative partnerships.

The Katikkiro concluded by rallying support from all sectors involved in Uganda's coffee industry: "We need significant support to meet the registration deadline before the year ends." His call for unity reflects a

broader understanding that sustainable practices are not just beneficial for compliance but essential for securing a prosperous future for Uganda's agricultural sector.

The stakeholder engagement was attended by UCDA officials led by Board Members, representatives from the National EUDR Task Force as well as a team from aBi Development. aBi Development has committed UGX 16 billion (approximately \$4.3 million) to support Uganda's compliance with the EUDR. This will complement the UGX 13 Billion (approximately \$3.5 million) that the Government of Uganda has committed for the 2024/25 financial year to support compliance with EUDR. This funding will be utilised for various initiatives, including awareness creation and establishing a coordination unit.

As Uganda approaches critical deadlines for EUDR compliance, collaboration among stakeholders—government officials, coffee stakeholders, and industry leaders—will be vital in ensuring a sustainable and economically viable future for the sub sector. ●



Emong, Kyalo and Nangatsa

UCDA, National Task Force brief Media on EUDR

Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) held a media engagement in Kampala to discuss the European Union Regulation on Deforestation-Free Products (EUDR), which will become enforceable on December 30, 2024. This meeting, with over 80 journalists in attendance from radio, TV, newspapers, and online platforms, was part of a national initiative to engage stakeholders and raise awareness about compliance with the new regulation.

The EU regulation aligns with the Uganda National Coffee Act 2021, emphasising the need for traceability in the coffee sub-sector. In compliance with the Act, and prior to the EU regulation, UCDA had developed innovative tools such as a Geospatial Monitoring and Evaluation System and Farmer Registration App to streamline farmer registration and facilitate compliance.

The event was organised in partnership with aBi Development and the National EUDR Task Force that was set up in the second half of 2023. Presenting on Uganda's preparedness towards complying with the EU Deforestation



Emong presenting on behalf of the national EUDR task force.



Dr. Gerald Kyalo, UCDA's Director Development Services being interviewed by the media during a stakeholder engagement on EUDR

Regulation (EUDR), UCDA's Extension Manager, Robert Nangatsa outlined the current trends in coffee production and exports, emphasising that over 60% of Uganda's coffee is exported to EU countries. He detailed Uganda's preparedness to comply with the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) concerning its coffee sub-sector, highlighting the establishment of a national register for coffee value chain actors, training and awareness creation sessions and the development of the Geospatial Monitoring and Evaluation System. The EUDR, which mandates traceability and deforestation-free practices, requires that exporters provide geolocation data for coffee farms and detailed land-use maps. It is expected that by December 2024 the country will have mapped close to 1 million of the estimated 1.8 million coffee households.

On behalf of the National EUDR Task Force which UCDA and UCF co-chair, Samson Emong outlined the strategic approach adopted collectively by the coffee sub-sector to comply with EUDR and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CS3D).



Dr. Kyalo reaffirmed UCDA's dedication to providing relevant information to the media, enhancing communication with coffee stakeholders and ensuring continued access to the EU market for Uganda's high-quality Robusta and Arabica coffee.

He detailed a timeline of activities from January 2023 to August 2024, highlighting key developments such as the establishment of a national task force on EUDR, stakeholder workshops, and a national action plan. The action plan includes various Accompanying Measures (AMs) to enhance information dissemination, supply chain tools, industry collaboration, and capacity building. Emong emphasised the collaborative nature of this approach, involving government agencies, farmers, cooperatives, exporters, and other stakeholders, while ensuring data

protection and privacy for farmers.

In his remarks, Dr. Gerald Kyalo expressed gratitude for the UGX 13.9 billion allocated by the government and confidence in receiving the full UGX 35 billion to set up the traceability system. He stressed the importance of focusing on achievable goals with current resources while remaining optimistic about future funding. Dr. Kyalo emphasised the urgency of adapting to the EUDR to maintain Uganda's coffee export market, which accounts for 66% of Uganda's coffee exports. He assured the media that the registration process would be transparent and inclusive, aiming to map all farmers and minimize compliance risks.

Dr. Kyalo reinforced the importance of registration for traceability. "The registration process is meant for traceability and ensuring our coffee accesses the EU market," he said. For farmers with over 10 acres, polygons will be created for precise record-keeping, while those with smaller farms will only need to provide a single point. "The registration process

EUDR COMPLIANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- UCDA has developed a Geospatial Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System, and a Farmer Registration App, have been developed to capture geolocation data, including polygonal data and comprehensive biodata
- Since January 2023, UCDA has engaged in comprehensive awareness training sessions for stakeholders in partnership with the private sector within the coffee industry
- The National Coffee Act (2021) is in place and the draft Coffee Regulations incorporating the EUDR requirements have been developed and are awaiting the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries approval
- A dedicated Technical Working Group, comprising representatives from UCDA, NITA, NIRA, MAAIF, MTIC, MWE, MLGSD, and key players from the private sector, has been assembled to oversee the effective implementation of EUDR regulations
- National workshops to disseminate essential knowledge and raise awareness among private sector stakeholders are ongoing
- Ongoing market research initiatives are underway, aimed at seamlessly integrating the EUDR module and traceability module with the Geospatial M&E System (National Registry), ensuring comprehensive compliance and streamlined operations
- Government of Uganda has committed UGX 13.9 Billion in UCDA's Financial Year 2024/25 budget to support the implementation of a comprehensive traceability system
- Additional funding secured for coffee farmer registration from aBi Development (UGX 16 Billion) and UNDP (UGX 152 Million)
- Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Hon. Frank Tumwebaze, officially launches the nationwide registration of coffee stakeholders on 1st October 2024

will be continuous and done by UCDA," Kyalo assured, emphasising that new entrants into the coffee value chain will be added to the value chain register.

Kyalo also highlighted that exporters will need to produce evidence that their coffee did not come from land that was subjected to deforestation or forest degradation. "To do this, we need a register of all farmers, gardens, and coordinates," Kyalo said.

Dr. Kyalo underscored the need for improved communication and public engagement to ensure farmers are well-informed and supported throughout this transition. He reiterated the government and private sector's commitment to collaborate with local governments and stakeholders to facilitate a smooth registration process.

In conclusion, Dr. Kyalo reaffirmed UCDA's dedication to providing relevant information to the media, enhancing communication with coffee stakeholders and ensuring continued access to the EU market for Uganda's high-quality Robusta and Arabica coffee.



A cross section of invited guests at the media engagement on Uganda's readiness.

UCDA Strengthens Uganda's Coffee Presence in China Through Strategic Engagements

Uganda Coffee Development Authority, through its Representative Office in Guangzhou, China is making significant strides in boosting Uganda's coffee presence in one of the fastest-growing coffee markets globally. Through strategic partnerships, participation in high-profile trade expos, and direct engagement with industry stakeholders, UCDA is positioning Uganda's premium Arabica and Robusta coffees as a top choice for Chinese consumers. These efforts are essential in cementing Uganda's reputation as a leading coffee supplier in this dynamic market.

China's Growing Coffee Market



China's coffee market is experiencing rapid growth, with revenues projected to reach US\$44 billion by the end of 2024.

This expansion is driven by changing consumer habits, an evolving café culture, and a rising demand for premium and specialty coffee products. The number of branded coffee outlets in China is expected to surpass 86,300 by 2028, signalling a robust market potential.

For Uganda, China represents an important destination for coffee exports, ranking among the top 20 global markets. Uganda's coffee exports surged in 2023/2024, with 6.13 million bags exported, generating US\$1.14 billion. China played a significant role in this success, with Ugandan coffee becoming increasingly popular among Chinese consumers, particularly in the premium market segment. Uganda's coffee exports to China are on the rise as seen from the latest export figures.

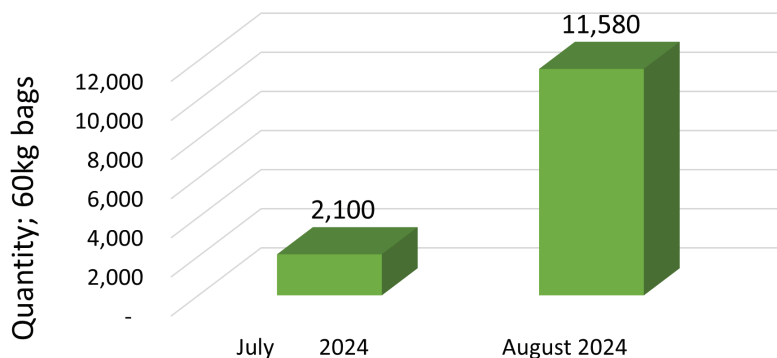
Uganda Coffee at major expos in China

UCDA's strategic engagement in China's major coffee expos has been instrumental in showcasing Uganda's coffee culture and building long-term trade relationships. By targeting



Star Cafe, Mountain Harvest, Bugisu Cooperative Union and Discovery Group representatives visited the Asia Pacific Coffee Green Bean Distribution Centre.

Coffee exports to China July-August, 2024



Source: UCDA Strategy Department

key events in collaboration with the Uganda Consulate in Guangzhou, UCDA ensured Uganda's coffee products reached the right audience,

generating both immediate and future business opportunities. UCDA actively participated in prominent expos across China, including HOTELEX Shanghai,



BCU representatives engaging with coffee buyers of their Elgon Coffee Brand in China



Meeting with potential buyers at the Asia Pacific Coffee Green Bean Distribution Centre



A potential buyer makes inquiries at the UCDA booth in Chengdu



Mountain Harvest Managing Director, Kenneth Barigye, in discussions with stakeholders

Kunshan International Coffee Fair, SIGEP in Shenzhen, HOTELEX Chengdu, and CAFEEX Shenzhen. At these events, Uganda's coffee exporters, such as Mountain Harvest and Bugisu Cooperative Union showcased their high-quality Arabica and Robusta beans, conducted interactive cupping sessions, and engaged directly with professional buyers.

At HOTELEX Shanghai, UCDA's booth attracted over 4,500 visitors. This expo not only facilitated numerous trade discussions but also led to significant engagement with the Asia Pacific Coffee Green Bean Distribution Centre—China's first professional



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and standardized coffee trading and distribution hub. With a 50,000-tonne storage capacity, discussions on warehousing solutions are expected to bolster Uganda's coffee supply chain

and expand its presence in China.

At SIGEP Shenzhen, Uganda's coffee varieties, particularly the highly regarded Sipi Falls Arabica, garnered widespread attention, with daily queues of more than 300 eager tasters. The excitement surrounding these varieties highlighted Uganda's potential to compete in China's rapidly expanding specialty coffee market.

During COFAIR Kunshan, UCDA leveraged Kunshan's pivotal role in the coffee industry to enhance its visibility and cultivate global partnerships. Kunshan's innovative logistics and trade facilitation policies, including the "Service Trade Account Book," promise

UGANDA COFFEE IN CHINA



Mr. Zhou Wei, Secretary of the Kunshan Municipal Committee, along with his delegation, poses for a photo with the Ugandan team.



Mr. Zhou Wei, Secretary of the Kunshan Municipal Committee, and his delegation enjoy tasting Ugandan coffee.



Star café representative introducing Uganda coffee to the buyers



Guests queue to taste Uganda Coffee

reduced costs and streamlined market access for Ugandan coffee traders. Last year alone, Kunshan imported over 5,000 tonnes of Ugandan coffee, reflecting growing demand and trust in Uganda's quality products.

At HOTELEX Chengdu, Uganda made a significant impact as the sole African exhibitor. Chengdu, often referred to as "Second Coffee City" after Shanghai, boasts over 6,000 coffee shops, offering a significant opportunity for Uganda to form partnerships and distribute its high-quality coffee across south western China. UCDA also took centre stage at the China Coffee Industry Development and Innovation Forum, held during HOTELEX

Chengdu, where experts from associations in Yunnan, Chongqing, and Baoshan discussed collaboration opportunities with Uganda's coffee industry.

At Cafeex Shenzhen, 120 café owners received Uganda's roasted beans to serve in their cafés. UCDA showcased premier Ugandan coffee brands, such as Masha Coffee, Mountain Harvest, and Zigoti Coffee, through expertly conducted cupping sessions. This event reinforced Uganda's growing reputation in China as a source of diverse, high-quality coffee.

Finally, at CITIE Guangzhou, UCDA's

consistent efforts to raise the profile of Uganda's coffee were acknowledged when the Uganda Consulate received an award for outstanding organisation. This recognition not only reflected UCDA's collaborative influence but also strengthened Uganda's brand in China's competitive coffee market.

By focusing on these key expos, UCDA has significantly expanded Uganda's coffee footprint in China, securing contracts for containers of green beans and roasted coffee. The strategic participation in these events has laid the foundation for continued growth and collaboration in one of the world's most dynamic coffee markets. ●

A bright future for Uganda's coffee in China

To elevate the profile of Ugandan coffee in China, UCDA organized a series of high-impact cupping sessions in major cities such as Chengdu, Shenzhen, Shanghai and Kunshan. These sessions were more than just a tasting experience; they were a critical touchpoint for building awareness around Uganda's premium Arabica and Robusta coffee.

The sessions introduced Chinese buyers to Uganda's coffee, emphasizing quality, sustainability, and the unique characteristics that distinguish Ugandan coffee in the global market. These standout events successfully connected prominent buyers with Ugandan exporters, facilitating direct trade discussions and spurring heightened interest in Uganda as a leading supplier in the Chinese coffee sector.

UCDA's strategy extended beyond cupping events to targeted meetings with key industry stakeholders, including importers, traders, and roasters. Additionally, UCDA promoted Uganda's coffee through participation in the **Global Robusta Coffee Competition**, led by the Global Coffee Elite Forum (GCEF). Several Ugandan exporters, including Ankole Coffee Producers Cooperative Union (ACPU), Chanzo Global Commodities, Kashari Coffee, Kamaama Estates, and Zigoti Coffee, submitted samples for evaluation.

This prestigious competition invited over 170 institutions and coffee professionals from China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, and neighbouring countries to assess the quality of the coffee. The results of the competition, scheduled for December 2024, will mark another key milestone for Uganda's coffee



Cupping session at Cafeex Shenzhen.



After a cupping session at Gar Cafe, Hotelex Chengdu.

in the region and further solidify its reputation in global coffee markets.

Future Prospects and Growth Opportunities

Looking ahead, UCDA is well-

positioned to capitalise on the increasing demand for premium coffee in China. The country's growing middle class, combined with the rise in café culture and shifting consumer preferences towards high-



UCDA's Marketing and Promotions Coordinator (MPC), Dorin Negesa, in the Authority's representative office (RO) in China participating in project negotiations with Ningbo Lydd E-commerce Ltd. Ningbo Lydd E-commerce Ltd is one of the biggest coffee buyers

quality, sustainably sourced products, provides Uganda with a unique opportunity to strengthen its foothold in this dynamic market. Uganda's commitment to ethical coffee production and its ability to offer both Arabica and Robusta varieties further enhances its appeal to Chinese buyers, who are becoming more discerning in their coffee choices.

UCDA's efforts to engage with key stakeholders and expand its distribution network in China are expected to bear fruit in the coming years. The authority is already exploring potential warehousing partnerships that will make it easier for Ugandan coffee to reach Chinese consumers. At the same time, UCDA's focus on continuous promotion through expos and cupping sessions ensures that Uganda's coffee will remain top of mind among Chinese buyers.

As China's appetite for premium,

sustainably sourced coffee continues to grow, UCDA is committed to ensuring that Uganda's coffee remains a key player in this market. With a strong foundation already in

place, and increasing interest from major Chinese buyers, the future looks bright for Uganda's coffee in China. 🟢



Cupping session at Cafeex Shenzhen



Cupping session at Gar Cafe, Hotelex Chengdu

Northern Uganda's Coffee Potential: Insights from Coffee Day Celebration in Gulu

During the 2024 International Coffee Day celebration in Gulu City, Hon. Fred Bwino Kyakulaga, the Minister of State for Agriculture, emphasised Northern Uganda's vast potential for coffee production. The annual coffee event, organised by the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) and the private sector, was hosted at Gulu University.

Hon. Kyakulaga stated, "We have already demonstrated that Acholi [sub-region] can double the production of coffee. If you double production in other sub-regions, the results will be good." He urged farmers to utilise their land more effectively, noting that with 28,000 square kilometres available in the region, coffee cultivation could achieve significant economic benefits.

The State Minister for Agriculture highlighted the need for mindset change among the local population in Northern Uganda adding that he recently met with the State Minister for Northern Uganda together with Operation Wealth Creation leaders and agreed to form a task force to tackle issues affecting coffee production.

"The focus [of the task force] will be on increasing extension services and using various communication channels to reach a wider audience," Hon. Kyakulaga emphasised. In addition, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries (MAAIF) will introduce climate-smart agriculture to 64 districts in the Acholi sub-region, where farmers will get low-cost irrigation equipment to help them during the dry season.

Hon. Kenneth Omona, the State Minister for Northern Uganda Rehabilitation, echoed these sentiments by advocating for a specialised program to promote coffee growing in Northern



Hon. Fred Bwino flanked by State Minister for Northern Uganda, Dr. Omona Kenneth, UCDA Board Chair, Dr. Charles Mugoya and UCDA Board Secretary, Eunice Kabibi tour exhibition stalls at the International Coffee Day Celebrations in Gulu.

Uganda. "We will need affirmative action; a special programme meant to introduce and roll out coffee in Northern Uganda," he said, emphasising the necessity for more extension workers to educate farmers. He also urged cultural leaders to champion coffee growing in their communities.

Speaking on behalf of Gen. Caleb Akandwanaho, Sylvia Owori, the Director of Operations at Operation Wealth Creation, pointed out that coffee can be the magic bullet for peace and economic recovery in the region. She added that she will work with the youth to make coffee fashionable and unlock employment opportunities.

Dr. Charles Mugoya, the UCDA Chairperson, reinforced the government's commitment to transforming Northern Uganda into a coffee production hub.

He remarked, "UCDA has remained committed to supporting coffee farmers in Northern Uganda and ensuring the sustainable development of the sector." Dr. Mugoya noted that UCDA has invested 8 billion shillings in coffee initiatives over the past five years and distributed 30 million seedlings to farmers.

Eunice Kabibi, who represented the Managing Director of UCDA, affirmed that the region's fertile land is suitable for coffee production. "Northern Uganda still has abundant fertile land suitable for coffee production," she asserted, explaining that soil tests have confirmed its viability. She expressed optimism about achieving the ambitious target of producing 20 million bags of coffee by 2030.

UCDA statistics reveal that Uganda exported 6.13 million bags of coffee

valued at 1.144 billion US dollars during the Financial Year 2023/24. Kabibi highlighted that since introducing coffee over a decade ago, production in Northern Uganda has grown from 2,567 60 kg bags in 2023 to the current 4,026 bags.

The celebration was themed **"Exploring the Unique Coffees from Northern Uganda"** and showcased the Government interventions aimed at socio-economic transformation through coffee farming. Kabibi pointed out that while Northern Uganda has traditionally relied on annual crops such as cotton and tobacco, transitioning to perennial crops like coffee is crucial for sustainable development.

Coffee farmers in the region urged the Government to provide them with free coffee seedlings to boost their ability to cultivate the crop and improve their livelihoods. It will be recalled that the Government halted the distribution of free seedlings and redirected the funds to the Parish Development Fund in 2022.

Dr. Richard Acaye, a coffee farmer in Labora sub-county, Omoro district, speaking on behalf of farmers, said without free seedlings, most farmers will struggle to engage in sustainable coffee production. Dr. Acaye urged the



UCDA is engaging coffee farmers and cooperatives in Northern Uganda to scale up coffee production

Government to prioritise interventions that will uplift coffee farmers and enhance the overall productivity of the coffee sub-sector such as enhancing extension services to educate farmers; promoting sustainable farming practices and environmental conservation; and investing in infrastructure and technology for processing and marketing.

Northern Uganda offers untapped potential for coffee growing. UCDA continues to engage all stakeholders, including the youth, to take up coffee production for employment and increased household income as the region transitions from annual crops to perennial coffee. The Authority has

invested in promoting commercial coffee production through seedling distribution and establishing coffee mother gardens for socio-economic transformation. Through its interventions, UCDA has dispelled the myth that coffee does not do well in Northern Uganda. Under good management, coffee as a business is a sustainable and profitable venture. Since UCDA launched the program to promote coffee in Northern Uganda in 2008, farmers have adopted coffee growing and are well on their way to contributing to the Coffee Roadmap target of producing 20m bags annually by 2030.



Guests at the International Coffee Day Celebrations.



Coffee Time: UCDA promotes domestic coffee consumption in Gulu City.



Best of the Pearl winners - Zigoti Coffee, Ankole Coffee Producers Cooperative Union (ACPCU) and Mountain Harvest were awarded plaques by Dr. Kenneth Omona, State Minister for Northern Uganda at the International Coffee Day Celebrations in Gulu City

Celebrating the 2024 Best of the Pearl Robusta winners

The Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) and the Uganda Coffee Federation (UCF) unveiled the 2024 Best of the Pearl Robusta coffee competition winners last month. The competition which took place from September 9 to 14 at the UCDA Coffee Quality Laboratory, was a vibrant celebration of Uganda's rich coffee heritage and its talented producers.

A total of 27 exceptional samples were presented, each telling its unique story through flavour and aroma. A panel of seasoned judges—including Fidel Bakomeza (Head Judge), Veronica Najjemba, Naume Komuhangi, Diana Rose Ajiambo, and Tonny Bocana—subjected the samples to two meticulous rounds of cupping and grading using the Coffee Quality Institute (CQI) Fine Robusta score sheet and protocols to ensure that every cup was evaluated with precision.

The competition featured three distinct categories: Natural Coffee, Honey Coffee, and Washed Coffee. Each category reflects different processing methods that bring out unique characteristics in the beans.

Natural Coffee (also called unwashed coffee) involves a dry processing technique where beans are left to dry with the fruit still intact, resulting in rich and fruity flavors. Honey Coffee, on the other hand, sees the skin and pulp removed while leaving a thin layer of mucilage during drying, adding an enjoyable sweetness. And

lastly, Washed Coffee is cleaned of all mucilage before drying, producing a crisp and clean cup.

In the Natural Coffee category, it was Ankole Coffee Producers Cooperative Union (ACPCU) that took home the crown with their Screen 15 Robusta, scoring an impressive 84.75. ACPCU also triumphed in the Honey Coffee category with a score of 84.65 for their Screen 15 Robusta. In the Washed Coffee category, Zigoti Coffee emerged victorious with their Screen 15 Robusta, scoring 81.7.

BEST OF THE PEARL COMPETITION

The other entries that scored above 80 points included Go Coffee, Kamaama Dairy Farm, and Jalamba Integrated Farm.

These victories represent a significant step forward for Ugandan coffee on the global stage. By highlighting quality producers and their outstanding coffees, this competition helps elevate Uganda's reputation in international markets. The winning coffees will be featured at international fairs and in online auctions, opening doors for greater visibility and better earnings for farmers.

As we embrace October which is dedicated to coffee, Uganda has a reason to celebrate more than its independence! Congratulations to all the winners and participants in the Best of the Pearl Robusta competition. Their dedication is highly commendable.

About the Best of the Pearl Competitions

The Best of the Pearl Robusta and Arabica coffee competitions have become hallmark events in Uganda's coffee calendar, celebrating and elevating the exceptional quality



John Nuwagaba, GM ACPCU receives awards for Best Natural and Honey Coffee categories



As we embrace October which is dedicated to coffee, Uganda has a reason to celebrate more than its independence! Congratulations to all the winners and participants in the Best of the Pearl Robusta competition. Their dedication is highly commendable.

and diversity of Robusta and Arabica

coffees produced in the country while highlighting the skill of local farmers. Each year, Uganda Coffee Development Authority showcases winning coffees from the Best of the Pearl competition at global exhibitions. In 2021 top-scoring coffees from small and medium enterprises (SMEs) were auctioned online. All this significantly raises Uganda's profile in the global coffee market and highlights her coffee's potential to compete internationally. This initiative has enabled Ugandan farmers to access premium markets and increase their earnings. ●



Mountain Harvest has been dominant in the Arabica edition of the Best of the Pearl competition and won the Natural and Honey categories.



Zigoti Coffee emerged victorious with their Screen 15 Robusta, scoring 81.7.



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



Uganda Coffee Development Authority



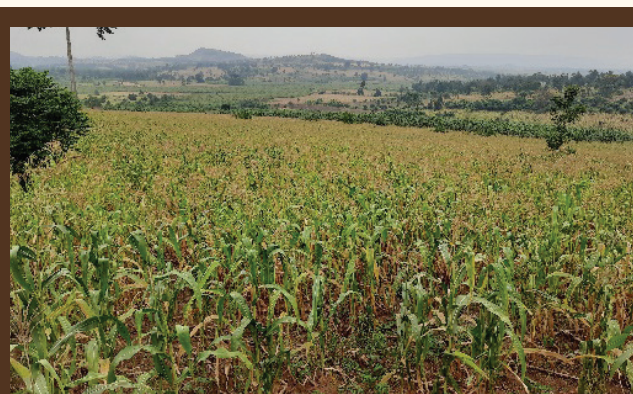
European Union

A New Innovative Approach: The CoCoDev Matching Grant Scheme (MGS)

*What can be so new and surprising from two such well-established organisations, the European Union (EU) and the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA)? In short, the **Matching Grant Scheme (MGS)** is being implemented as one of the activities under Result 2 of the Coffee and Cocoa Value Chain Development Project (CoCoDev). And again, you might ask, what is unique and new about a matching grant approach?*

Is this not a standard methodology to ensure a joint commitment and investment into an initiative? Well, yes, the CoCoDev MGS approach is a cost-sharing methodology, but what is new is that the cost share is based on reimbursement from the project to the private sector investor after the investment has been made – that is, the planting of between 10 and 50 acres of either coffee or cocoa on new or virgin land. Due to this approach, the risk from the project side is minimal from a financial perspective. If the farmer does not plant the coffee or cocoa in line with their grant contract commitment, they will not be reimbursed. But if they keep their commitment, then CoCoDev will keep its commitment and reimburse the grower around UGX 3.2m per acre, which, according to UCDA cost calculations in the Robusta and Arabica coffee growing manuals, is about 55% of the total costs of establishing 1 acre of either coffee or cocoa.

There are currently 134 signed MGS grants in operation, and this is expected to increase to 151 by the end of October 2024. Many projects struggle with managing less than 10 EU grants but, in EU terms, these are "micro-grants" in the range of around UGX 32.2 Million for a 10-acre plot to around UGX 160 Million for a 50-acre plot. Considering the "reimbursement nature" of the grant, there is no risk of the support being misspent because the grantee does not receive it until they have planted their fields. Furthermore, the payment is made in 2 parts – 60% once the coffee and/



Kiboga Verification - Maize field to be replaced by coffee in Kiboga.



RCEO training farmers during a field verification in Kiboga.

or cocoa have been planted, and then the balance of 40% 6 months later when the care and establishment of the field can be assessed.

Another factor, which cuts across all aspects of the MGS implementation, is the fact that the CoCoDev Project is implemented by UCDA. Alongside the comparatively small CoCoDev Project Management Unit (PMU) located within the UCDA headquarters in Kampala, sits the nationwide network of the UCDA Regional offices with 56 Regional Coffee Extension Officers (RCEOs), who are expert trainers and advisors in coffee, as well as cocoa.

Call for Interest

The CoCoDev PMU widely publicised a call for Expressions of Interest (Eoi) to participate in the MGS with support from the Regional offices. Over 1,200 expressions were received from farmers interested in obtaining support to start or expand their coffee or cocoa plantations.



Hoima verification - The field is cleared and ready for hole digging and cocoa planting.



Kassanda Verification - Field boundary and size assessment

These Eols were assessed for basic eligibility criteria and 967 out of the 1200 applicants were invited to submit Full Applications to participate. From these invitations, 757 full applications were received and subjected to a 2-stage evaluation process. The 1st stage was a desk evaluation where the applications, after another eligibility check, were scored against a set of criteria to assess the applicant's knowledge of general agronomical practices in coffee and cocoa, assessment

of their financial proposals and financial capacity to pre-finance the action, among others.

The 2nd stage was a field verification process where all applicants reaching this stage were visited to have their original documents checked, their land verified for suitability for growing coffee or cocoa, and the area of each production plot measured. The number of MGS applicants reaching the field verification stage was 370, and all of these were physically verified for two weeks in late June and early July 2024. The fields to be verified were spread from Kitgum and Koboko in the north to Kisoro in the south. This task was achieved through the use of a specially developed Kobo Collect Tool from the UCDA M&E department and 12 teams, comprised of CoCoDev PMU and UCDA's coffee extension officers visited over 30 applicants each.

On returning to Kampala, the CoCoDev PMU cleaned and consolidated the results of the desk evaluation and field verification to support the Evaluation Committee in developing their report, which was submitted to the Ministry of Finance, National Authorising Office (NAO) and the EU on 30th July 2024 for approval. The report was approved on the 23rd of August 2024 and identified 134 beneficiaries for support with the available funding envelope. A total of 118 applicants were placed on a reserve list because although they passed both stages of the MGS evaluation process they could not be supported due to limited available funds. The key statistics for the successful MGS applicants and subsequent grantees are shown in the table below.

Key MGS Grantee Statistics

| | |
|--|---|
| Number of males - 101 | Number of females - 15 |
| Number of companies - 18 | Number of UCDA Regions - 9 |
| Number in Cat. 1 with 10 to 19 acres - 52 | Number in Cat. 2 with 20 to 50 acres - 82 |
| Number of Districts - 66 | Number of Robusta awards - 107 |
| Number of Arabica awards - 13 | Number of Cocoa awards - 14 |
| Total number of acres - 3,678.50 | Total value of Grants - UGX 11,443,325,606 |

All the MGS grant contracts were signed before the end of August 2024, and the contracting was followed by two 4-day training sessions held at the National Coffee Research Institute (NaCORI) in Mukono District, to which all grantees were invited from 2nd to 5th September 2024 and from 9th to 12th September 2024. The training covered the essential aspects of CoCoDev MGS grant management, coffee and cocoa agronomy, farm

management and record keeping, farming as a business, and farming ethics, which picked up on environmental care and gender sensitivity. Facilitation at the training was done by CoCoDev PMU and Technical Advisory Team (TAT) members, coffee extension officers, and NaCORI-based scientists. All aspects of the training were hands-on, using the NaCORI facilities for practical field work in coffee and cocoa planting techniques and disease identification.

The grantees have now returned to their farms to start their investments. They are preparing the ground for the coffee or cocoa planting and hopefully planting, if time allows, before the onset of the dry season across most of Uganda. The CoCoDev PMU and UCDA extension officers are available to offer technical support from through this process. A complete tour of all grantees is expected in November 2024.



CoCoDev Coffee Officer, Sandra Kamenya, welcoming participants during the training of the successful applicants



PMU Cocoa expert explaining modern agronomic practices to farmers



A coffee extension officer, Rauben Keimusya, teaches crop care to grant beneficiaries



Practical tree planting and application of manure during the training of the beneficiaries

About the CoCoDev Project

The Coffee and Cocoa Value Chain Development Project (CoCoDev) falls under the Inclusive Green Economy Uptake Programme (GreenUP) of the European Union (EU), funded under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF). GreenUP and CoCoDev contribute to the Uganda Green Growth Development Strategy (UGGDS). CoCoDev is implemented by the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) following a Multi-Annual Programme Estimate (MAPE)—FED/2021/430-533 with a value of UGX 25.5 billion (Euro 6.38 million).

CoCoDev has three main result areas:

- Supporting, strengthening and implementing Coffee and Cocoa Policy and regulatory framework
- Enhancing Commercial coffee and cocoa production and productivity
- Reducing Post-harvest losses, improving quality and marketing opportunities for coffee and Cocoa products

The CoCoDev PMU is grateful for the untiring support of the UCDA central office, the UCDA regional teams, the NAO, and the EU.

COFFEE TRENDS

September 2024



Key Highlights



A total of **532,212 60 kilo bags** of coffee valued at **US\$ 144.71 million** were exported in **September 2024** at an average price of **US\$ 4.53 / US cents 12** higher than **US\$ 4.41 / Kilo** in **August 2024** and **US\$ 1.80** higher than **US\$ 2.73 / kilo** in **September 2023**.

This was an decrease of **7.67%** quantity and **53.79%** in quantity and value respectively.



Farm gate prices for **Robusta Kiboko** averaged **UGX 6,750** per kilo, **FAQ UGX 12,750** per kilo, **Arabica parchment UGX 12,750** per kilo and **Drugar UGX 11,500** per kilo.



Coffee exports for twelve months **(Coffee year 2023 2024)** totaled **6.35 million bags** worth **US\$ 1.4 billion** compared to **6.14 million bags** worth **US\$ 940.1 million** in the previous year **(Coffee year 2022 2023)**.

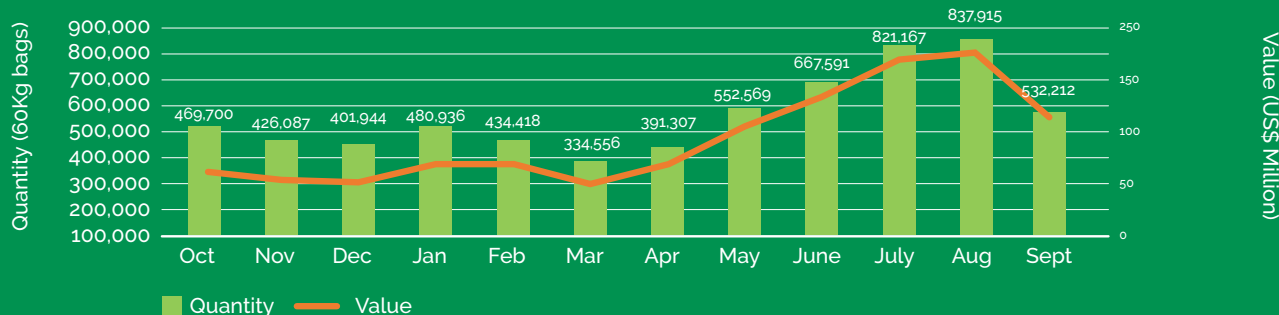
This represents an increase of **3.42%** and **48.97%** in quantity and value respectively.



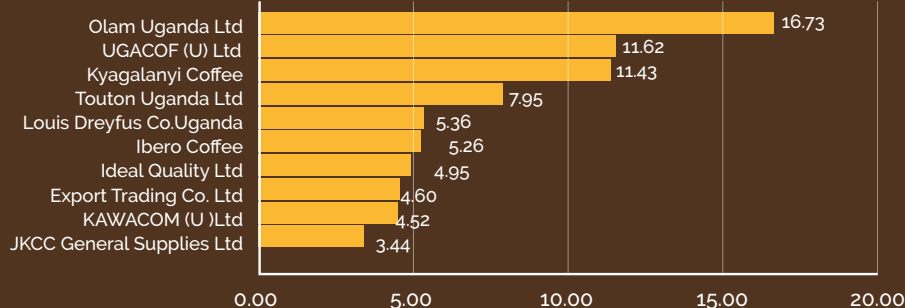
76% of the total volume was exported by **10 exporters**, out of **65** companies which performed during the month compared to **75%** in August 2024.

Sustainable Arabica and Sustainable Robusta fetched the highest price at **US\$ 5.69** per kilo.

Trend of Total Quantity and Value of Coffee Exported: July 2023 - September 2024



Top 10 Exporting Companies by Percentage Market Share - September 2024

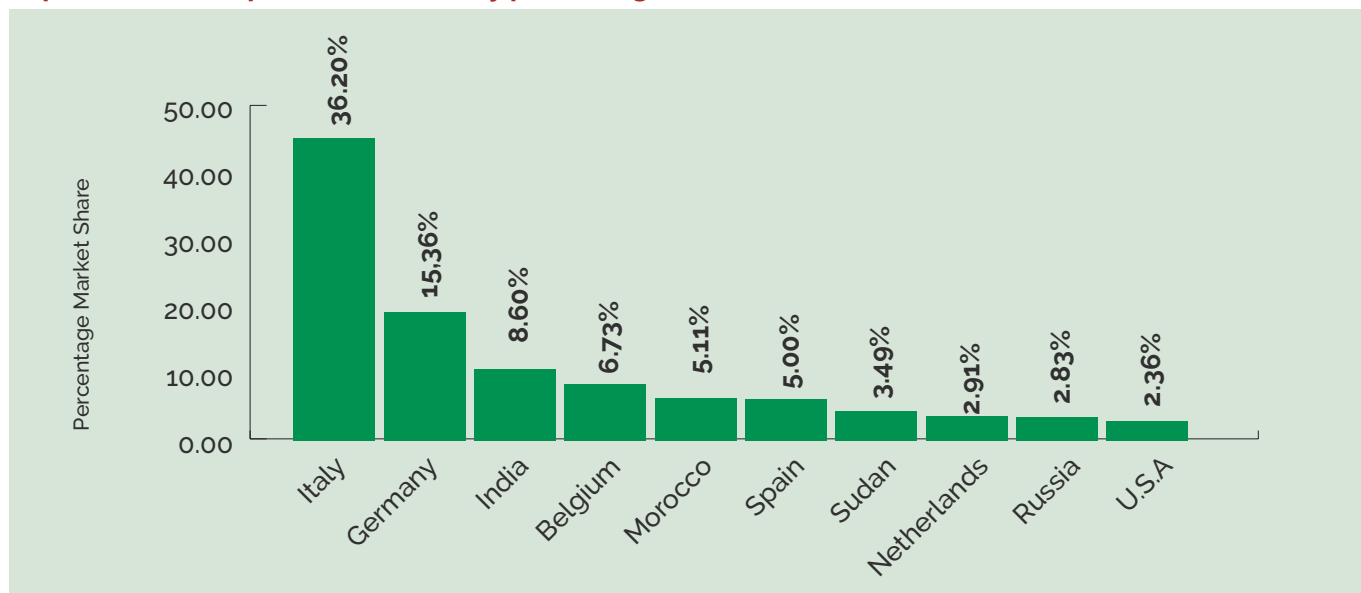


COFFEE TRENDS

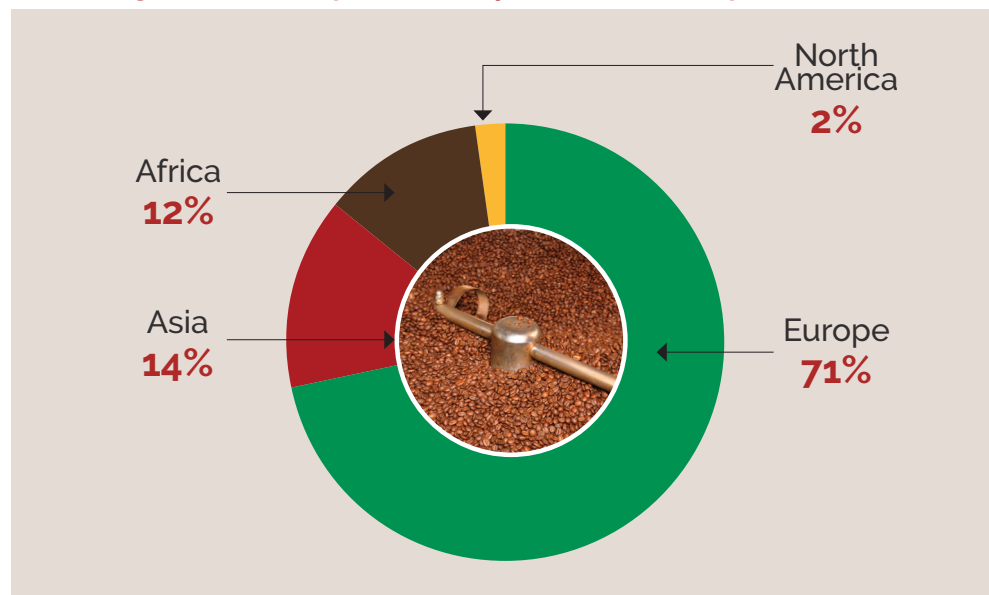
September 2024



Top Ten Coffee Export Destination by percentage market share



Percentage of Coffee export share by continent for September 2024



Quantity of Coffee exported by type for September 2024 (60Kg-bags)



Total: Quantity: 532 212 60Kg-bags | Value: US\$ 144,708,077

COFFEE TRENDS

September 2024

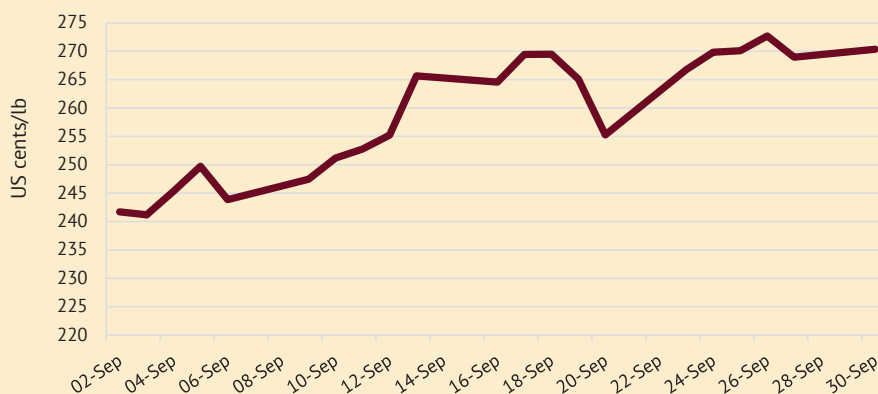


ICO Indicator Prices - September 2024

In US cents/lb

| | ICO composite indicator | Colombian Milds | Other Milds | Brazilian Naturals | Robustas |
|---------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|----------|
| 02-Sep | 241.71 | 265.38 | 260.21 | 239.79 | 224.69 |
| 03-Sep | 241.20 | 264.48 | 259.50 | 239.13 | 224.54 |
| 04-Sep | 245.35 | 266.69 | 260.63 | 241.03 | 233.05 |
| 05-Sep | 249.73 | 269.06 | 268.61 | 247.93 | 233.82 |
| 06-Sep | 243.88 | 262.39 | 261.53 | 241.58 | 229.40 |
| 09-Sep | 247.47 | 269.31 | 268.28 | 246.38 | 228.99 |
| 10-Sep | 251.18 | 272.41 | 271.39 | 250.57 | 232.83 |
| 11-Sep | 252.78 | 272.00 | 270.98 | 250.20 | 237.98 |
| 12-Sep | 255.22 | 273.63 | 273.58 | 252.47 | 240.75 |
| 13-Sep | 265.67 | 283.72 | 283.53 | 262.78 | 251.73 |
| 16-Sep | 264.57 | 282.28 | 282.63 | 261.62 | 250.68 |
| 17-Sep | 269.45 | 288.40 | 288.74 | 267.76 | 253.35 |
| 18-Sep | 269.47 | 288.21 | 288.56 | 267.49 | 253.80 |
| 19-Sep | 265.09 | 283.29 | 284.33 | 262.25 | 250.24 |
| 20-Sep | 255.28 | 273.05 | 274.57 | 252.01 | 240.91 |
| 23-Sep | 266.78 | 285.87 | 287.35 | 264.47 | 250.41 |
| 24-Sep | 269.83 | 289.78 | 291.26 | 267.94 | 252.30 |
| 25-Sep | 270.09 | 291.55 | 293.03 | 270.32 | 249.36 |
| 26-Sep | 272.70 | 296.96 | 296.29 | 274.52 | 249.30 |
| 27-Sep | 268.97 | 292.23 | 291.25 | 269.86 | 247.45 |
| 30-Sep | 270.37 | 294.02 | 292.80 | 271.99 | 248.00 |
| Average | 258.90 | 279.27 | 278.52 | 257.24 | 242.08 |
| High | 272.70 | 296.96 | 296.29 | 274.52 | 253.80 |
| Low | 241.20 | 262.39 | 259.50 | 239.13 | 224.54 |

ICO composite indicator price - September 2024



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