

# PRODUCER PROFILE

**Name:** Kafa Forest Coffee Farmers' Cooperative Union

**Product:** Coffee

**Country:** Ethiopia

**FLO ID:** 3417

**Fairtrade Certified Since:** 2006

**Number of Certified Members:** 10,341

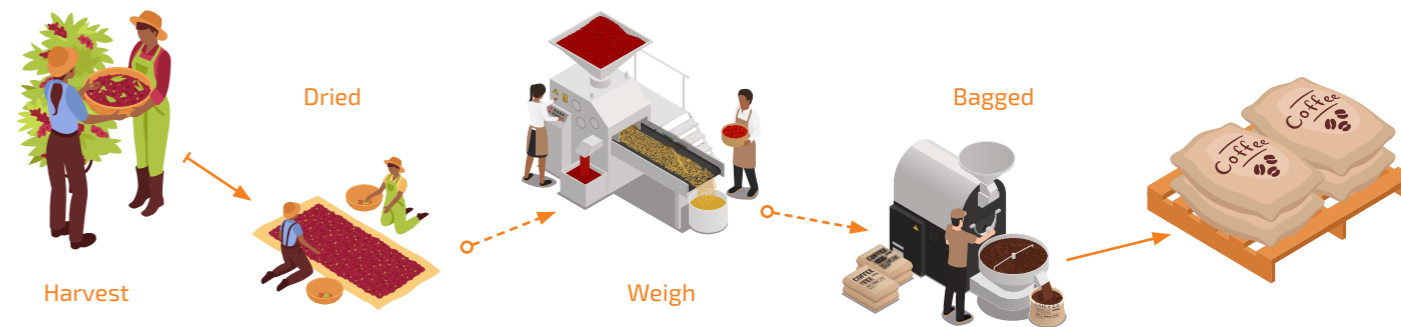


## Introduction

Kafa Forest Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union (KFCFCU) is located in Kafa zone, in the southwestern part of Ethiopia. Kafa zone is the place where coffee Arabica is originated. KFCFCU was established in 2004 by 17 primary cooperatives with 4,267 member farmers and a capital of 200,000 birrs. Currently, the number of member cooperative societies has reached 48 with more than 9871 smallholder members (about 20% female) and its net asset has reached over 12 million birrs. 10341 coffee farmers from 21 primary cooperatives are Fairtrade certified and benefiting from the Fairtrade System. The main purpose of its establishment is to export Kafa forest coffee to the international coffee market so that farmers get a better price for their product and improved livelihood. The union also has a mission to promote the origin of coffee. Naturally organic coffee, wild-grown coffee in a multi-layered upland rain forest, superior product for national and international markets, traceability of the product, a direct link to the international market, and payment from the net profits as dividends to farmers are the uniqueness of the union.

In addition to the marketing of coffee, the union has also been involved in building capacity of primary cooperative societies & farmers; participating in the establishment and provision of social and economic infrastructures; playing a leading role in the effort to conserve natural resources especially natural forests. The natural resource and environment conservation activity is the core activity to preserve the origin of coffee Arabica Kafa.

## Coffee Growing & Processing



Fairtrade certified primary cooperatives members harvest coffee in their coffee farm and then deliver them to the cooperative for washing, drying, and processing. The cooperatives prepare washed coffee at their washing and drying processing stations. The union's annual export capacity is 630 tons of coffee

(180 tons of Washed Forest and unwashed Forest 450 tons). KFCFCU has been engaged in the processing and export of sun-dried (natural) Forest Coffee directly to the international coffee market since 2004. It is also processing and exporting fully washed Forest Coffee delivered by its member

cooperatives since 2010. The union is exporting its finest sun-dried (natural) Forest Coffee to Europe.

The fully washed Forest Coffee is exported to Germany, the USA, Japan, and Australia.

# Coffee Profile



**Altitude:**  
1500-2300m



**Area of Production:**  
3607 ha



**Growing Practice:**  
100% Organic



**Processing Type:**  
Washed | Dried



**Harvest Period:**  
September-December



**Other Certifications:**  
EU Organic



**Smallholder Production Area:**  
1 Ha averagely



## Coffee Production:

**Capacity:** 630 tons annually

**Export Countries:** German, USA, Japan & Australia

**Quality:** Fine

# Benefits of Fairtrade

## Quality, Productivity & Sustainability

Since KFCFCU's members harvest coffee from wild-grown coffee in a multi-layered upland rain forest, the issue of sustainable production and quality & productivity are a core activity. Fairtrade premium projects playing a significant role to improve coffee quality, productivity, and sustainability. The union invested a lot on awareness and capacity building training focusing on good agricultural practices, construction of a coffee warehouse, the establishment of coffee washing stations, and coffee

nursery sites. To ensure sustainable production farmers are continuously replacing old coffee bushes.

## Environment

KFCFCU is implementing agricultural and environmental practices that are sustainable and minimize risks and that biodiversity is protected and enhanced in collaboration with national and international actors. KFCFCU is fully organic and doesn't use any pesticides or fertilizers. It also has buffer zones around water bodies to prevent contamination of the water supply and is protecting protected areas that have high conservation value.

## Social Projects

As part of social responsibility prioritized social projects like construction of additional classrooms, an extension of clean water construction, simple bridge, and rural road constructions are implemented and benefited significant number coffee farmers and the surrounding community. In addition, the union invested in primary cooperatives organizational development.



## Opportunities

- Opportunity to adopt climate mitigation measures to address the reduction of yield and quality of coffee caused by climate change.



### **Fairtrade Africa**

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### **Producer Organization**

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