



Development of a PCR for Green Coffee



The Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI) Platform Coffee Working Group has identified the consistent measurement of green house gas emissions from green coffee production as an area of limitation towards sustainability. Having invested in research regarding opportunities and challenges related to this, the Group recently partnered up with the Dutch Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) towards the development of a common Product Category Rule (PCR) for Green Coffee. In this context, IDH is providing funding which is matching contributions from the private sector over the 18 month duration of the project (starting in March, 2012).

Currently, the following SAI Platform Members collaborate to make this project a reality:



Scope

The scope of this project is to develop a PCR for green coffee (addressing farm level production only, stopping at the farm gate).

The driver of this approach is to better understand the emissions from the coffee growing system and enable managers to better target actions to reduce the emissions from identified 'hot spots' in a quantifiable manner. The project also aims to develop a consistent method of measuring GHG so that everyone evaluating the impact of these and designing reduction strategies, communicates with the same language and agreed metrics.

The Group approaches this project in an open and transparent manner with the ultimate aim of developing a valuable resource for the coffee sector. The project welcomes all interested parties from the coffee sector, including farmer organisations, NGOs etc.

How to get involved

This project, to be successful requires engagement from coffee organisations with a genuine interest in this area of sustainability. There are three opportunities to engage with the project:

1. Steering Committee If you are a coffee company and would like to become more closely involved, you can get a seat on the Steering Committee against payment of 5000.00 Euros as well as participation in each of the committee meetings, so as to ensure that robust strategic decisions are made and implemented.

If you represent the coffee farming community, we would be delighted for your involvement, which would also entitle you to one seat on the Steering Committee, without any fee.

2. Technical Working Group Should you have experience in this field and would you be willing to provide resources towards the development of the PCR, would you be welcome in the Group (subject to approval by the Steering Committee). We seek a mix of scientific expertise and field specialists who can advise on the application of proposed approaches.

3. Communications Group You would like to be involved in this initiative but cannot take part in the above-mentioned groups? Join the Communications Group to receive e-mail updates as well as send comments on proposals along the development timeline.

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