



Rainforest Certified

Vietnam



<p>Organising entity:</p>	<p>DAK MAN, a member of Volcafe</p>
	<p>Our Sustainable coffee program first started in Cu Mgar district, Daklak province with the 4C program which established a strong foundation. In 2008 we applied the Rainforest Alliance (RFA) Certification to selected farms and also expanded into neighbouring Buon Ma Thuot and Krong Pak districts.</p> 
<p>Background</p>	<p>Daklak is a famous coffee land in Vietnam. Cu M'gar and Krong Pak districts lie peacefully to the mid-east of Buon Ma Thuot highlands. Their coffee is the highest quality with distinct natural aroma thanks to traditionally devoted cultivation as well as local climate and thick basaltic soil layer.</p> <p>Initiated with 785 farmers in 2006, now the group has grown to over 2,000 farmers, of which 1088 farmers are certified by Rainforest. The expansion for 2010-2011 took place in the communes of EaTar, Quảng phú, and Cưdiêm nông.</p> <p>Rainforest certified farmers cultivate 1,482.9 ha which can annually produce up to 4,463 tons of high quality robusta coffee.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Rainforest farms in Quang Phu, Cu Mgar district and Hoa Dong, Buon Ma Thuot.</i></p>



Testimonial

Y Khanh Nie,

One of E-de ethnic minority people, a member of Cu M'gar group Rainforest certified:

"When joining the sustainable coffee project, we follow the good agriculture practices (GAP) standard, which controls my cost of production and saves my money with the right investments, and I can sell coffee at higher prices as well."

"Not only myself but also my neighbours are now highly aware of protecting water resources and the environment, not only for enhancing the quality of my family life, but also for our community and future generations as well. By participating in the Rainforest Alliance certification scheme, we found that it not only brings us the visible, but also the invisible benefits."

"Before training in GAP, we used to apply a lot of pesticides and agrochemicals. As a result, useful insects (ant, etc) disappeared; the environment became polluted causing negative effects for us and our community. Harmful insects without its enemies multiplied rapidly as an epidemic and seriously destroyed our crop (cicada, Pseudococcus sp). We also tended to over-irrigate and over-fertilize."

After joining the RFA certification program, we trained how to control pests with IPM (Integrated Pest Management). Now, we let all pests live together, and they can control and balance themselves."

We can also graft new coffee varieties ourselves which can produce highly productive good quality coffee which is resistant to leaf rust disease (caused by Hemileia vastatrix). We now understand how to apply proper irrigation and fertilizer. We partly invest in organic fertilizer (cow dung) instead of applying only chemical fertilizer, since knowing that apart from supplying necessary dietary mineral like Mg, S, SiO₂, Zn, Cu, Fe, Mn, ..., organic fertilizer can play as a role of a store that can absorb chemical fertilizer preventing it from evaporating to the air. We know why, what, when and how to apply the right type and enough fertilizer as well as agrochemicals. We know how to control the rate of irrigation. Almost all of us now stop spraying. We know how to take care of our bean quality at the lowest cost. What we get from the sustainable coffee program is not small"



Y Khanh Nie, one of RFA farmers in Eatar commune, in traditional costume.



RFA and GAP training held in minority traditional community house