



Completion Report

UGA-JEN-GCC-P01 Mbale, Uganda
Reporting Period: February – July 2019

Growing Coffee Capacity - Uganda

Budget: \$76,200 for a one-year project. Fully funded.

The Project:

In 2016-17 we helped our partners to establish a coffee cooperative on Mt Elgon, in eastern Uganda. Building on the success of the first two seasons of coffee planting, production and export, we have supported our partners to expand their infrastructure and further grow their capacity as the business has become self-sustaining operationally! The poor farmer groups are at the heart of this project with around 4,000 people benefitting from this project. For generations they have struggled to survive in this hilly Mt Elgon region. Our partners are working with these communities to provide sustainable, ongoing income streams through coffee. This report covers the final processing and preparation of the coffee prior to export, together with sending samples around the world to potential customers. The outcome is a fabulous year of coffee development!



Progress Against Objectives:

- *Development work at Sipi:* Further good development of the Sipi Falls tourist visitor centre to sell coffee and demonstrate the “coffee journey” to local and international visitors, plus training of the shop manager Kenneth.
- In May, the “hungry” season (as farmers run out of funds between harvests), our partners shared a “farmer bonus” This is a highlight of the season! It also sets this project apart with this added benefit to farmers.
- *Budwale/Wanale operations:* The coffee from here was very well received by international buyers with a higher than average price, benefitting the farmers and the hungry-season bonus. The small purchasing centre to access a very remote area was a huge success bringing the benefits to another 100 farmers. Other improvements include fencing and more drying space. This is all underpinned with continuous training to farmers.
- *Purchase of a small truck:* The truck (bought with Entrust support) moved significant amounts of coffee on buying days, to different sites, to storage facilities and final processing. This is a big logistical improvement. A 2WD pick-up has been added and is useful for the sites that do not require 4WD access.
- *Develop the roastery:* Our partners have long desired to cultivate, process and roast coffee locally all in the one place – this is going from strength to strength. Approximately 80% of production is exported (mainly to Australia and UK) with the other 20% sold increasingly across Uganda which keeps money in the country and creates jobs.
- *Micro-Dry Mill:* Local collaboration with another like-minded organization has allowed sharing of facilities and is working well for our partners as our partners have saved costs through sharing.
- *Skills and Leadership Development:* Attendance at a Specialty Coffee Association conference in Boston, USA has helped raise the profile of our partner’s business. Entrust partially supported this.

Our partners say, *“In addition to helping 3,500 farming families, we now have 8 local staff. Our new roaster and packager Ronald is delighted with his new skills and that he can provide an income for his family! He has taken to the job so well and has a great eye for detail. Thank-you Entrust supporters. Your partnership means everything to us. This is an exciting project bearing great results!”*