

PROJECT OVERVIEW

REGION	Dairi District, North Sumatra, Indonesia	
BENEFICIARIES	3,000 smallholder farming families	
PROJECT DURATION	12/2021 - 12/2024	
IMPLEMENTED BY	Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung (HRNS)	- Car
FINANCED BY	Peet's Coffee	
PARTNERS	Agricultural Department of Indonesia	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Dairi district is located along the western edge of Lake Toba, the biggest lake in Sumatra, and borders the foot-hills of the Mount Sibuatan National Reserve. Home to a unique and biodiverse, moss-dense rainforest with rich vegetation, the mountains in this region enjoy an ideal amount of rainfall of over 2,000 mm per year. Famous for its cultural diversity, this area is also inhabited by various ethnic groups with their own customs and languages.

Arabica coffee is grown around the lake area and into the mountain region. Although many smallholder families are implementing mixed cropping systems on their small plots, most coffee trees are underproductive due to lack of proper farm management techniques. Coffee quality is compromised because of poor harvesting practices, plant diseases are taking their toll, and best practices around agro-chemical use are not widely employed.

There is a great demand for new knowledge and innovation to increase production and combat pests and disease and increase resilience to climate change. A focus on rebuilding soil and regenerative practices leading to resilient farming systems are desperately needed. The project aims to increase smallholder families' resilience to climate change by implementing an extended training program focusing on increasing farm productivity, promoting integrated farm management, and utilizing sustainability best practices.

Activities include training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), safe use and handling of agrochemicals, and an introduction to integrated pest and disease management including basic training in composting and weed control to increase soil health and ecological diversity. Activities also contribute to improving labor conditions and enhancing environmental protection through awareness training on national labor laws, safe working practices, and biodiversity preservation.

In total 3,000 smallholder farming families will be reached through 120 local village-level farmer groups. From these groups, key farmers will be trained to act as extension specialists, while simultaneously working with existing organizations to strengthen their training capacities. In this part of Sumatra, women are very prominent in agriculture and participate actively in farm decision making. It is expected that women will make up 50% of the trainees in the project. Further emphasis will be given to young farmers and those farmers willing to make a change.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Coffee productivity and income:

60% of smallholder farmers have improved their coffee yields and farm income.

Agrochemical application:

- 90% of smallholder farmers have understood the potential health hazards of specified agrochemicals and have adopted appropriate handling procedures.
- Smallholder farmers have reduced their overall use of agrochemicals and implement soil fertility management approaches they have learned from the project.

Integrated pest, disease, and weed management:

• 60% of smallholder farmers have repeatedly applied integrated weed, pest and disease management approaches they have learned from the project to at least 50% of their coffee land.

Labor and environmental conditions:

- 90% of smallholder farmers are aware of minimum wage regulations.
- 90% of smallholder farmers are aware of the importance of preserving biodiverse forest areas.





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