Sustainable coffee growing, fair trade and peace building. The case of Cosurca, Cooperativa del Sur del Cauca, Colombia

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In accordance with the Departmental Development Plan 2016 - 2019, "Cauca, Territory of Peace", the "strengthening of productive chains and knowledge about the major international markets, make Cauca a region with multiple potentialities". However, the territory presents the "need to make an investment focused on productive processes with added value"
June 2018:
1,436 members
957 men and 479 women;
11 grassroots associations

1993
FOUNDERNG

2000
FAIRTRADE

2002
COFFEE
AGROINDUSTRY

2003
EXPOCOSURCA

2009
Reconstruction
of industrial plant

2017
New ventures: organic
brown sugar and cocoa

2012
UNICAMINOS
project starts

2010
Fruits
Agroindustrial
process

CoSurCa
COOPERATIVA DEL SUR DEL CAUCA

UNICAMINOS
Corporación Técnica
Campos del Suroccidente Colombiano

COSURCA S.A.
Exportadora de la Cooperativa del Sur del Cauca
Multidimensional multilevel and multistakeholders development approach of fair trade in Cosurca

CoSurCa
COOPERATIVA DEL SUR DEL CAUCA
... A very important issue for us is our ability to produce our food in war times. If we produce good quantities of wheat, fruits and vegetables that we can store, we are limiting our people from leaving the land. It is this change of life that allowed us to live during a war that lasted 40 years ...
The process of capacity building and technical assistance is shared between the professional and the producer, because the producer also knows and shares; therefore, the exchange is continuous and thanks to it the results are visible. [...] Nobody forces us to do things in a certain way, the learning process is based on the construction of producer autonomy, fueled by the sharing of knowledge ...

two 3-year technical careers
Agroeconomy and Operation of Tourist Services and Hotels
UNICAMINOS Corporación Técnica
Caminos del Suroccidente Colombiano

ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING
YOUTH INCLUSION

4 QUALITY EDUCATION
The Strategic Plan of Cosurca (2011-2019) includes activities to "strengthen the participation of women and ethnic minorities in the processes of socioeconomic, cultural and environmental development."

Among the actions of this objective are considered specific training for peasant, indigenous and Afro-Colombian women.

« [...] today not only men can establish the rules of the farm and the house; nor can they only manage coffee revenues. Everything must be shared.»

Fairtrade minimum price: 1,4 USD/pound, + 0,2 USD Fairtrade premium, + 0,3 USD organic differential, + 0,02 USD for Femenine Coffee, and up to 0,6 USD for quality and origin. TOTAL: 2,52 USD/pound

Specific elements to encourage greater participation of women in decision-making were included in the statutes and internal regulations. Before there was no formal impediment, but it was considered important to explicitly add promotional purposes ...
Peace building in the territories

Laboratories of Peace, in Cauca and Nariño (2005-2008)

Diálogos Interculturales 2019

2° Conversatorio
Territorio y Construcción de Memoria Colectiva desde la visión Afrapatria
Municipio de La Sierra - Cauca

Lunes, 29 de abril de 2019
Hora: 9:00 a.m.
Lugar: Institución Educativa
La Delegación
Vereda La Depresión - Municipio de La Sierra

Hagamos Memoria
5 de Abril Inauguración

Casa Museo
Un Paso por el Tiempo
La Sierra, Cauca

Frente a la estación de Gasolina Barrio Norte

Itinerant Expositions

Museums of Memory
multidimensional impact of fair trade

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<th>PRODUCTION</th>
<th>TRADE</th>
<th>EMPOWERMENT</th>
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<td>Rescue of agroecology and organic agriculture</td>
<td>International recognition</td>
<td>Associative strengthening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Productive diversification</td>
<td>Organizational strengthening</td>
<td>Trade autonomy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improvements in quality and productivity</td>
<td>Stable and long-term relationships with several buyers</td>
<td>Improvements in producers self-esteem</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved technical capabilities</td>
<td>Better conditions of coffee sale</td>
<td>Exchange of knowledges</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fairtrade prive</td>
<td>Constant learning and self-criticism</td>
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<tr>
<th>SOCIAL</th>
<th>POLITICAL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gender equality promotion and valorization of women role</td>
<td>Positioning as a relevant actor in Cauca and Southern Colombia</td>
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<td>Youth inclusion</td>
<td>International relations</td>
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<td>Long-term investments with UNICAMINOS</td>
<td>Valid interlocutor in the peace process</td>
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<td>Technical capabilities and trainings</td>
<td>Political formation of the associates - autonomy in decision making</td>
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