



Newsletter #1 - February 2017

Hereby we would like to give you a brief overview of MVIWAMBI's business, to make sure you are up-to-date with everything important happening with Mbinga's best coffee. From 2017, we want to regularly provide you with a quick read about us, to make sure you as important stakeholder are kept in the loop, so expect to receive a Coffee Newsletter at least four times a year!

2016/2017 Coffee sales

MVIWAMBI has sold almost all coffee procured in 2016/2017, and we are happy to have reached 413 tonnes of coffee collected, 13 tonnes more than the goal set before the start of this season. After a meeting with all group representatives on the 18th of January, we have decided on total and final payments, and the average price for 2016-2017 is:

- tshs 5,197 @kg

After all deductions, the price paid to our farmers is as follows:

- SG tshs 5,100 @kg
- P1 tshs 4,644 @kg
- EC tshs 2,500 @kg

By comparison, the average price of coffee in 2015/2016 was 3,532 Tsh per kg, so this year's price is much higher. As a result, farmers are very happy and we expect a growth in membership and amount of coffee collected for the next season!

Distribution of agricultural inputs

Thanks to the SIDI development bank - providing us with an input loan - we have

been able to distribute necessary agricultural inputs in time (before the big December rains) to all committed farmer groups. So far, \$ 100.000 in inputs has been distributed, and there is still \$ 20.000 in the bank for investment in organic agricultural inputs.

Increase of number of Central Pulping Units (CPUs)

We have been working hard to increase the number of CPUs in our coffee growing areas. 11 member groups of MVIWAMBI have now officially asked for a CPU to be installed before coming harvest, and we are looking into different opportunities for financing and buying these CPUs on behalf of the groups. MVIWAMBI as facilitator, groups as owners, we keep you posted on future developments!

Certification

We are looking into future possibilities for certification to raise the price and awareness of MVIWAMBI Mbinga Coffee. On the 24th and 25th of January we received a very interesting training from Mr. Mwakipesile from Starbucks, and we will receive a training from Fairtrade in the coming weeks. As soon as we decided if we want to become certified, we will let you know!

Logo

We are very proud to present our new logo, which you for sure already spotted above. It will represent our coffee online, in the field and in our communication, and it is our aim for it to become a benchmark for high quality coffee from the Mbinga region. We would like to thank the graphic designer Mrs. Martina Laura Miccione, who has been very kind to design our great new logo for free. We will make sure to send some of our highest quality coffee to Italy to thank you!

The logo is just the start of our branding, we have the aim to spread the MVIWAMBI name offline (at our demo plots for example) and online (new website), we hope to provide you with more info in the next newsletter. Please don't hesitate to contact us meanwhile for any questions, we are here.