



FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED™

FAIR TRADE COFFEE COOPERATIVE PROFILE

INDONESIA



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PPKGO, Indonesia



About the Co-op

Date Established: 1997

Number of Members: 1,400

Annual Production: 55 arabica containers, 7 Robusta containers

About the Coffee

Varieties: Typica, Catimor, Caturra

Elevation: 1,100m - 1,500m

Processing: Pulped, fermented, semi-washed (Sumatran fashion), sun dried, machine and hand sorted

Cup Characteristics: Low acidity, medium to firm body, earthy

Harvest/Export Season: Oct-Feb, Apr-Jun/Nov-Aug

Organic Production: 100%

Organic Certification Agency: SKAL, NASAA

Shade Grown: 100%

The Gayo Organic Coffee Farmers Association (also known as PPKGO) was founded through a partnership between the indigenous people of the Gayo region of Sumatra and Forestrade, a Vermont-based company. This association is the first, and still the only, coffee cooperative from Indonesia that is Fair Trade Certified. The co-op members are small coffee farmers dedicated to producing 100% shade-grown, organic coffee. Despite the political unrest in the region, the partnership has continued to produce, process and export high quality Sumatran coffee.

Significant premiums earned from selling to the Fair Trade and organic markets allow this co-op to contribute to a wide variety of programs, including:

- Community nurseries to provide improved and grafted coffee and shade tree seedlings
- Rehabilitation of degraded lands and unproductive coffee trees
- A weed cutter program to help farmers avoid the use of herbicides
- A member's credit union to extend small loans to families in the cooperative
- Upgrades to all processing facilities
- Community infrastructure projects, such as clean water supply
- Increased staffing and development of the association

Co-op farmers live in an environmentally sensitive region, the buffer zone to a National Park, which contains critical watershed areas and sanctuaries for endangered species such as the Sumatran tiger. Fair Trade price incentives and technical support provided by the cooperative have encouraged sustainable agriculture and resource conservation.