

Proposal for a workshop on International Fair Trade Symposium; University of Cologne, 25. Sept. 2026
Title: Agroforestry – new perspective for (coffee) farmers

We learn and discuss about the huge agroecological and economic benefits of agroforestry systems. In using the Naturland guidelines for agroforestry we work on details like which tree species have certain needed functions for a sound and successful functioning agroforestry system. We also learn about how to reach a system which can well function for decades?

We raise therefore important questions and work together on effective solutions on the following:

- What is agroforestry in general and what are its positive impacts for land and nature?
- What kind of training has therefore to be organised for the farmers?
- How do we overcome fears of farmers which origin from unknown, new practices to them?
- What kind of structure is necessary? At cooperative level? At level of famers? At level of multipliers? At level of trainers?
- How does a hand drawn plan of a well equipped and planted agroforestry field look like in order to use small land sizes in best and most efficient way for agroforestry?
- Which species of trees do we need for that and how can we bring those up from seeds to seedlings ready to plant?
- What kind of trainings are necessary on good farming practices as well as going for organic farming followed later by organic and fair trade certification?
- Which budget is necessary for implementation within 3 – 5 years? Let us calculate along possible cost factors?
- How can we turn our learned theoretical knowledge in practical planning, planting, pruning, and composting?
- How can we convince authorities in countries of coffee origin to cooperate on agroforestry ideas and not to work against them?
- How can we support families with certain plantings on increasing their food sovereignty?
- Which additional USP for marketing does a fair trade coffee have which origins from agroforestry?
- How can we show the positive impact on CO2 binding with agroforestry as successful way to adopt to climate change?
- How can we here in Europe support sales of fair trade certified coffee from agroforestry?

In summary: With our workshop agroforestry we are tackling and discussing issues of

- What is an agroforestry all about?
- What are the positive impacts it has for nature, climate and the people?
- How to plan such system from cradle to well working status?
- What is needed for implementation?
- Why is it a new chance for fair trade certified farmers – in terms of income and sustainability?

And with that we will show that a well working micro agroforestry system is best way of coffee farmers to use limited available own land. A really changing dynamic in fair trade relationship between North & South and on how to create best impact without stressing only on coffee. So with our success story from Burundian coffee farmers we bring a possible answer to Panel 2!

Workshop facilitators: Gilbert Nsabimana, Project Manager Agroforestry at COCOCA/
Burundi

Thomas Hoyer, Project Coordinator Agroforestry Project in Burundi

The workshop will be not held hybrid, but only in presence. 85 minutes duration time, only in English language. We expect to work with up 15 to 25 people – that would be perfect group size.

Keywords are: best Land and Resource Use, agroforestry, reforestation diversified income possibilities, increase of self-sufficiency. **The Workshop relates to panel 2: When the Map Moves: The Changing Dynamics of Fair Trade between North and South**