

Content

- **Recap: 4C Global Sustainability Conference**
- **Upcoming 4C Trainings**

Recap: 4C Global Sustainability Conference

100 persons registered for the 1st 4C Global Sustainability Conference which took place in Berlin yesterday. The conference has been a huge success, according to the feedback received from the participants. Coffee producers, brand owners, traders, associations, government authorities, NGO's and research bodies shared their perspectives on practical solutions for sustainable coffee supply chains.

The first session was initiated by Niels Haak from Conservation International, pointing out the environmental challenges coffee farmers are facing and which are amplified by climate change, such as the risk of coffee expansion into forested areas due to loss of suitable land for coffee production. In this context he announced his satisfaction about 4C to become a partner in the Sustainable Coffee Challenge, to support the goal of deforestation-free coffee supply chains. Followed by Dr Rafaël Schneider from the Welthungerhilfe and Annette Pensel from the Global Coffee Platform, further insights on environmental and social challenges and the issue of food insecurity for smallholders have been discussed, and collaborative actions to address these challenges via certification have been pointed out.

The second session addressed trade and end consumer market requirements, with speakers from the industry such as Stefan Canz from Nestlé, Sina Stemmler from Mercon B.V., Jan-Michael Wernicke from COFCO and Rodrigo Costa from Comexim talking about the implementation of their sustainability strategies. Dr Norbert Schmitz from 4C Services concluded this session by announcing the new strategies and approaches of the 4C System to mitigate sustainability risks and to implement efficient and effective audits in coffee supply chains.

The third session was on the impact of certification, where coffee producers from Brasil and Colombia as well as the Coffee Development Authority of Uganda shared their perceptions of the impact of 4C certification on the ground. They all pointed out the positive effects 4C has on labour rights and biodiversity protection, leading to improved working conditions and the rehabilitation of wildlife. Nevertheless, to further increase impact on the ground, demand for sustainably produced coffee needs to rise. This was complemented by Prof. Gernot Klepper from the Kiel Institute for the World Economy through a scientific assessment of measures to achieve transformation into sustainable markets. Holger Preibisch from the German Coffee Association concluded this session with insights about the German consumer behavior and buying decisions.

In the last session, Greg Meenahan from the World Coffee Research gave insights into coffee genetics and why this matters for sustainability, followed by speakers Keith Castelino from 4C and Pia Rothe from GRAS on tools and technologies to facilitate smallholder integration into certification, to ease the tracking of sustainably produced coffee and to verify that coffee supply chains are deforestation-free, using remote sensing data and GIS technology. To go beyond the sole production process of coffee, Dr Jan Henke from Meo Carbon Solutions concluded the session with solutions for sustainable coffee packaging by the use of certified circular or bio-based materials.



4C would like to thank all speakers and participants for making this conference such a successful event. The presentations hold during the conference can be found [here](#). We hope to see you all again during the next 4C Global Sustainability Conference.

Upcoming 4C Trainings

4C Trainings:

- 12-13 June 2019, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 04-05 September 2019, Mexico City, Mexico
- 16-17 October 2019, Campinas, Brazil
- 06-07 November 2019, Ho-Chi-Minh, Vietnam
- 12-13 November 2019, Jakarta, Indonesia

Click [here](#) for further information and registration.

Best regards,

Your 4C team