



Newsletter Nr. 18

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## Snapshot of 4C events in 2019

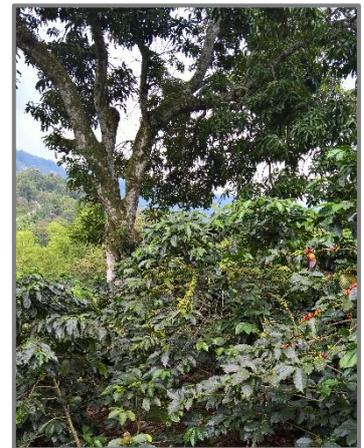
With the year coming to an end, we are very happy to have trained a total of 129 participants in 2019 on the updates to the 4C coffee certification system, spread out in seven different trainings, given in six countries in three continents. Every single training session was additionally a unique opportunity for an enriched exchange of experiences. Certification bodies, managing entities, and other interested parties have, as usual, contributed to the developments of this dynamic coffee certification system, which is always open to hear the needs and wishes of the system users. We hope to see you again in future trainings!



We are also proud to have held 4C's first global sustainability conference, this year in Germany. Other than the great perceptions brought by the speakers on the pressing issues of sustainability today, the event was an excellent place for networking among the 63 participants from industry, trade, producer, and research organizations.



Two field visits were carried out by 4C this year, one in Ivory Coast and one in the Philippines, which brought us many insights and learnings, and which will help to strengthen the 4C certification process in the future.



## 4C regional stakeholder conference



Don't miss out on the first 4C regional stakeholder conference, which will be held in Antigua, Guatemala on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020.

The [conference](#) will offer great insights into the most pressing issues of sustainability, and will be an excellent networking opportunity as a platform for coffee producers, industry and trade representatives, NGOs, associations, research bodies, and authorities.

Take a look at some of the topics of the [agenda](#):

- Support mechanisms for sustainable coffee production in times of low coffee prices
- Climate change adaptation strategies for coffee growers
- Verification of deforestation-free supply chains
- Possibilities to better promote 4C certified coffee through the on-product use of the 4C logo
- Social and environmental challenges in the coffee sector
- Market requirements for sustainable coffee from the trader and brand owner perspective
- Impact of 4C certification on the ground

4C staff will be available for individual sessions with stakeholders, on the previous day and on the day after the conference.

To schedule a meeting, please write to us at [info@4C-services.org](mailto:info@4C-services.org) with your preferred day and time.

Simultaneous translation from English to Spanish will be available.

Attendance is free of charge, but [registration](#) is required.

## New coffee varieties by WCR help coffee farmers to adapt to climate change

The coffee market is facing a long-term challenge of structural supply deficits due to rising demand and to the effects of climate change on coffee production.

World Coffee Research (WCR) is the leading organization in the field of breeding new varieties which help farmers to increase yields, reduce inputs and pest controls, and to adapt to climate. This long-term working process is an important step to ensure future production of coffee.

4C endorses the work done by WCR and exchanges information and views, as it helps to drive better agricultural practices and educate farmers on the possibilities that these new varieties can bring them.

Onsite auditing by 4C and the longer term roll out of these varieties by WCR is a powerful combination in the interest of the coffee producers and of preservation of future supply.

First-generation (F1) high-performing hybrids are being grown in test fields in Central America and Africa, and now the first cherries from these plants are being harvested in El Salvador. This will enable analysis of the first results on the breeding trials, further narrowing down of variety selection, and continuous monitoring of the performance of these plants. A great step forward, in the development of challenge resistant varieties to come to the market in the near future.

Read further about [next-generation F1 hybrid varieties](#)

And here, about [the first harvest: a breeding trial celebrates a milestone](#)

