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4C NEWSLETTER

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[Recap of the 4C Regional Stakeholder Conference in Latin America](#)

4C held last week its first 4C Regional Stakeholder Conference in Latin America, in the city of Antigua, Guatemala, with around 40 participants who actively joined the discussions on some of the most pressing issues of sustainability.

It was an enriching opportunity to exchange insights on topics all the way from national support strategies related to growing sustainable coffee, over climate change and adaptations strategies, 4C solutions for sustainable and deforestation free coffee supply chains, impact of 4C certification to sustainability strategies and market requirements of leading brand owners and traders. Regional organizations such as Asociación Nacional del Café (Anacafé) and the International Center for

Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) were present at the event, as well as global names such as Conservation International, Control Union and major representatives of the coffee industry, such as Nestlé, Peter Schoenfeld, Cocatrel and FNC.

Participants stated their interest in continuing this regional exchange, wherefore 4C will continue to conduct 4C Regional Stakeholder Conferences in Latin America.

Thank you, speakers and participants, for making the conference such a great event!

Click [here](#) for all presentations.

Innovations in the 4C Certification System

4C is constantly striving for more effective and innovative solutions which can better serve system users' needs. New features planned for this year will enhance the certification process and bring even higher credibility to 4C coffee.

An example is the recently launched new [BPM¹ template](#) which includes structural changes to its use and objectives. With its upload to the 4C portal, the user receives immediate feedback on consistency of data, analysis of parameters, and the respective automatized diagrams of the commercial and physical flow of coffee within the producing group. An interactive map is generated based on the geo coordinates of all coffee producers, showing possible risks to environmental breaches in the area.

Use of maps and remote sensing images in the 4C certification system has started already in 2019, but in 2020 it is being intensified by a mandatory approach before any 4C audit, aiming at a close-up analysis of the level of risk in the coffee sourcing areas.

New 4C tools are underway, such as the 4C Classified Chemicals Tool, which will enable users to check if substances used in a certain property, or group of coffee farms, are prohibited by the 4C certification system or need to be phased out within a certain period. It will also present which ones are banned in the respective country of application.

These are only some of the things our team has been working on lately, to make the 4C certification system even more robust and reliable than ever.

Keep an eye out for their announcements!

¹The Business Partner Map (BPM) is a list of all coffee producers which are part of a 4C Unit (a coffee producing group), as well as their individual area and production capacities. It also includes the processing mills, warehouses, and traders involved in that specific supply chain.

A Welcome to New 4C Managing Entities

We are pleased to welcome seven new Managing Entities who have entered the 4C certification system in 2019, and who have received a 4C certificate to their first sustainable coffee producing group. These companies have met the 4C requirements and can now trade products as 4C coffee. **Congratulations!**

Brasil:
Cooperativa dos Cafeicultores de Campos Gerais e Campo do Meio Ltda.

Mexico:
Cafetaleros La Concordia S.P.R. de R.L. (CAFECO)

Vietnam:
Phuoc Son Agricultural Products Trading Limited Company
Trang Huy Hoang Company Limited
Duc Nguyen Coffee Export Import Joint Stock Company
Intimex Xuan Loc Joint Stock Company
Intimex Group Joint Stock Company - Ha Noi Branch

4C Addresses Relevant Issues of the European Green Deal

This month, the European Parliament issued its position on the [European Green Deal](#), which sets out parameters to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050. Not only does the parliament support the climate law, but also pushes for even higher ambitions, such as a fair and inclusive transition mechanism and stronger interim targets for GHG emission reductions (55% reduction in 2030 compared to 1990). Members of the European Parliament say that the EU should adopt these targets well in advance of the UN Climate Change Conference in November 2020. And that for successful implementation of the Green Deal, higher targets for energy efficiency and renewable energy are needed, including binding national targets for each member state no later than June 2021.

[4C](#) addresses relevant issues of the Green Deal. The ‘Farm to Fork’ strategy, for example, includes efforts to tackle **climate change, protection of the environment, preservation of biodiversity, and reduction of risks and use of chemical pesticides, all covered by the requirements of the 4C certification system**. Measures such as eco-schemes should reward farmers for improved environmental and climate performance. In addition, the ‘Circular Economy Action Plan’ will stimulate the development of lead markets for climate neutral and circular products, in the EU and beyond.



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