



DRWakefield

EST. 1970

Peru

PUNO CONSERVATION

Supporting biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Sandia Valleys of Peru



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Coffee Puno Coffee & Conservation Project

Region Puno & Cuzco

Cooperative CECOVASA

Altitude 800 - 2000 masl

Varietals Catimor, Catuai, Caturra, Typica

Processes Washed

Harvest March - July

Certifications Fairtrade, Organic

Founded in 1970, La Central de Cooperativas Agrarias Cafetaleras de los Valles de Sandi (CECOVASA) saw five co-operatives coming together with the aim of exporting directly as a group rather than selling their coffee individually to mills and local traders. This enabled them to share the costs associated with processing and selling, therefore obtain better prices.

They have now grown to be one of the larger small producer organizations in the country, covering 10 primary cooperatives which represent 5,049 Quecha and Aymara families. They've been producing multi-award winning coffee since 2005.

Eight of the ten co-ops are located in Puno region and two in Cuzco region, with most farms located on the eastern slopes of the Andes. Aymara farms are mainly located in the Tambopata Valley and Quechua farms in the Inambari Valley. A third of coffee production is in the buffer zone of Bahuaja Sonene National Park.

The region offers excellent conditions for cultivating sustainable, high-quality coffee, and some smallholders already use agroforestry to grow coffee in native forest ecosystems.

However, the area has high levels of poverty due to lower incomes and higher input costs. There is limited access to fresh drinking water and electricity.

The fairtrade premiums have helped for business developments such as the construction of warehouses and investment of equipment; Educational programmes exist and a Committee for the Development of Women organised to provide a forum for discussion and training on topics from first aid to leadership to animal husbandry. Installation of sewer systems and repair of roads have improved infrastructure for the communities too.

