



FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED™

FAIR TRADE COFFEE COOPERATIVE PROFILE

FEDECOCAGUA, Guatemala



About the Co-op

Date Established: 1969

Number of Members: 20,000

Annual Production: 630 containers

About the Coffee

Varieties of Arabica: Bourbon, Typica, Catuai, Caturra, Pache, Pacas

Elevation: 900m - 1,900m

Processing: Wet processing, patio drying

Bean Characteristics: SHB, HB

Cup Characteristics: Good acidity and body

Harvest Season: Nov-April

Export Season: Year round

Organic Production: 3%

Organic Certification Agency: IMO

Established in 1969, FEDECOCAGUA is a cooperative organization with 20,000 members. Seventy percent of co-op members are members of indigenous groups from various regions of Guatemala, including Huehuetenango, Cobán, Verapaces, Retalhuleu, San Marcos, and Zacapa.

With proceeds from the Fair Trade price, the co-op has been able to:

- Buy new trucks that help to reduce transportation costs involved in coffee production
- Establish healthcare centers and pharmacies to meet the needs of local families
- Create micro-credit and pre-harvest financing programs
- Construct new schools and offer members' children scholarships to continue their education
- Finance electricity, potable water, and road construction projects
- Lend support to the "María Auxiliadora Weavers Club," a group of 25 women weavers who have exported their colorful handmade crafts, bags, placemats and napkins to Germany, benefiting more than 125 children from Patzún, Chimaltenango

"Prior to selling our coffee at the Fair Trade price, we did not have much of a chance to survive. Now we see the light at the end of the tunnel."

—Marcos M. Pérez,
FEDECOCAGUA member