



TEA COOPERATIVE

## FAIR TRADE PRODUCER PROFILE

### Herkulu Tea Estate, Tanzania

*"Fair Trade has given me a new lease on a peaceful life. I am happy it has enabled money to reach the poor and the underprivileged."*

— Giliasa Ally,  
Herkulu Tea Factory Supervisor

Herkulu Estate is situated in the Western Usambara Mountains in one of the last rain forests in Africa. All operations on the estate are carried out manually, and no chemicals or artificial fertilizers are used. In order to ensure optimum nutritional input to the tea bushes, compost is produced at the estate using green matter collected from the estate and manure from the company's cattle herd.

The factory processes teas from green leaf purchased from the small holders in the villages surrounding the estate. All the privileges of the Fair Trade system are extended to the small holders and the entire village. Each village has its own independent committee which votes on how to use the Fair Trade premiums it receives.

**The premium earned through Fair Trade tea sales has enabled the worker communities of Herkulu to take an active role in improving their own lives. Projects the Herkulu workers have financed through Fair Trade include:**

- **Improved Housing.** Workers and their families have been supplied with iron sheets and cement to repair their leaking roofs.
- **Education.** Primary schools in the workers' communities of Dulle and Kwalei have been supplied with tables, benches and improved ventilation systems.
- **Dispensary.** A dispensary and accommodation for the medical staff have been built. The dispensary offers drugs which have helped reduce the incidence of malaria.
- **Fair Trade Shop.** The Fair Trade shop sells essential foods at a wholesale prices and offers credit, helping workers keep food on their families' tables.
- **Sewing Machines.** Sewing machines have enabled families to save money by stitching and mending their own clothes, and even to earn extra income by creating small garment shops.



#### ABOUT THE GARDEN

- Date Established:** 1956
- Fair Trade Since:** 1994
- Number of Tea Farmers:** 175
- Annual Production:** 225 metric tons
- Land Under Cultivation:** 230 hectares
- Elevation:** 1500 meters

#### ABOUT THE TEA

- Tea Type:** Black
- Growing Region:** Tanga
- Harvest Season:** Year round
- Exporter:** Bombay Burmah Trading Corp. Ltd.
- Organic Production:** 25%
- Organic Certifier:** IMO