Sustainable agroforestry intensification of coffee growing in Ethiopia

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Outline

1. Introduction: General overview
   - The place of coffee in the Eth. Agriculture sector
   - Major Coffee growing areas of Ethiopia
   - Coffee Production Systems

2. Challenges

3. Opportunities

4. The way forward:
   - suggested actions for sustainability and maximum benefit
Livelihood in Ethiopia closely linked to agriculture and biodiversity

**Agriculture:**
- 80% total employment
- 41.6% the GDP
- 83% export earnings
- Smallholders sector produce most of the export commodities
- Coffee being the principal crop
About 20-25 million people (25%) for livelihood (directly or indirectly).

5.3 million farmers

large labor involved

A leading export crop 29%

Ethiopia:

- home for *Coffea arabica* Originated from southwest Forests of Ethiopia
- An important world heritage for the coffee industry
The main coffee growing zones and areas of Ethiopia

- **North Zone coffee areas:** Amhara and B.-Gumuz
- **South West Zone:** Wellega, Illubabor, Jimma-Limu, Kaffa, Tepi and Bench-Maji;
- **Rift Zone:** Rift North and Rift South
- **South East Zone:** Sidamo, Yirgacheffe, Bale and Central Eastern Highlands
- **Harar Zone:** Arsi, West Hararge and East Hararge

Known to be sources of different cup flavor/brands
Coffee Production Systems: 4 different types

Forest Coffee (8 – 10%)

Semi Forest (30 – 35%)

Garden Coffee (50-55%)

Plantation (8%)

Research > 1800 kg/ha (Question of Intensification)
Shade grown coffee management: Environmentally friendly and fulfils the following

- Source of multiple products (timber, honey, fruit, food…)
- Climate change mitigation
- Maintains biodiversity
- Used as carbon storage
- Facilitate nutrient cycling and sustainability
Naturally suitable for agroforestry-based agriculture and Intensification
2. Challenges

Deforestation and land degradation

Visible degradation
Challenges cont..... / Replacement of coffee by other crops
Challenges cont….. /

- Climate change  physiological disorders/diseases
- Predominantly  traditional production system
- Week Support System
  - Weak linkages among stakeholders
  - Little market promotion & incentive mechanism
  - Inadequate services (credit, inputs, seeds, equipment…)
- Little economic benefit  to the smallholder producers
3. Opportunities

Genetic diversity & favorable environments
Natural coffee forests - UNESCO biosphere

**Coffee culture** is a livelihood / life-style!
Shade-grown coffee landscape a sustainability components
Unique cultural coffee ceremony & high domestic consumption

Known coffee brands & cup flavors – supply less of demanded

**Government support**
Coffee Development and Marketing Authority, among others
Modest Research-Extension linkage
Modern coffee marketing system - ECX
Annual Coffee Day Celebrations at Federal & Regional levels

A growing private sector & cooperative unions - Producer, Processor, Exporter
4. Way forward?

- Generation and Utilization of Coffee research technologies

- Develop coffee variety: High yielding, disease resistant varieties (release for each agroecology)

- Coffee Husbandry: Application of best agronomic practices (including harvest and post harvest management, soil nutrition…….)

- Support system: for smallholder coffee growers and private sector with modern coffee technologies; and partnership

- Sustainable forest conservation: and Intensification (safeguard the gene pool of coffee germplasm for the world coffee industry)

- Fair trade/high quality: so the smallholder also get the benefit
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