

Shade-grown coffee has become an option to recover degraded lands and avoid forest encroachment in surrounding areas.

Coffee agroforestry systems help connect forest fragments, creating wildlife corridors.

Trees from the leguminous family fix nitrogen in the soil, contributing to the enhancement of nutrients, and increase protein food sources for livestock.

Agroforestry systems provide farmers with income diversification (crops and forestry).

Shade-grown coffee has a variety of plant species that support wildlife, improve habitats and enhance biodiversity.

Shade contributes to climate regulation, mitigating the effects of climate change.

Trees and coffee plants help sequester carbon during their lifetime.

Leaf litter that serves as protective mulch gets incorporated into the soil and adds organic matter that maintains healthy soil structure and recycles nutrients.

Tree roots help to prevent soil erosion and soil runoff, allowing the filtration of water to deeper soil layers.

Micro-organisms, such as bacteria and fungi, and invertebrates such as insects, arachnids and earthworms contribute to the delivery of essential regulating services (pest and disease control).

Trees help protect quantity and quality of water supplies via greater retention of water in the soil and increased infiltration.

Soil acts as a carbon sink, storing organic carbon for long periods of time and reducing CO₂ emissions.

Shade-grown Coffee

Sustainable Shade-grown Coffee



Practices and Benefits

Ecosystem Conservation

- **Native trees planting:** improves carbon sequestration
- **Leguminous tree planting:** increases nitrogen fixation
- **Prune and canopy management:** increases rainfall interception
- **Protection and restoration of ecosystems:** promotes reforestation and land recovery and mitigates climate change

Soil Management and Conservation

- **Soil conservation (contour plowing, inclusion of live barriers):** prevents soil erosion
- **Mulch application:** enhances soil fertility
- **Responsible use of fertilizers:** reduces use of mineral fertilizers, increases biodiversity, and increases water infiltration and retention



Integrated Crop Management

- **Use of climate resistant varieties:** improves crop adaptation
- **Use of pest-resistant varieties:** increases crop resistance
- **Pruning coffee trees:** increases soil diversity
- **Reduction of pesticide use:** limits crop damage
- **Limited use of toxic agrochemicals:** increases productivity

Water Conservation

- **Properly treating/discharging wastewater**
- **Preventing water body contamination**
- **Improvement in efficient water use (ecological coffee pulpers, rainwater collection, water treatment):** ensures water protection and availability

About us: The eco.business Fund is spearheading the promotion of business practices that contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of natural resources, and climate change mitigation and adaptation through private enterprises. By providing financing for business practices that conserve nature and foster biodiversity, the fund seeks investments with both financial and environmental returns.

The fund mainly provides loans to qualified local financial institutions that lend the money to eligible borrowers, which include holders of recognized certifications or those making improvements in line with conservation and biodiversity goals. The fund supports sustainable operations in the sectors of agriculture, fishery, forestry and eco-tourism.

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