NOTES FROM Colombia PUEDE

Learn more about “Colombia PUEDE: Peace and unity through productive development and commercialization”, a project financed by the European Union, through the European Trust Fund for Colombia, and implemented by the International Trade Centre (ITC).

This first edition presents a summary of the project: who are our beneficiaries, the most relevant activities carried out since the beginning of the project, and what progress has been made in terms of productivity and commercialization.

Colombia PUEDE seeks to improve the income of 2,000 small producers of cocoa, coconuts and Tahiti lime who live in four municipalities of the Department of Nariño, in southern Colombia: El Rosario, Leiva, Policarpa, and Tumaco. These municipalities are part of 170 towns in Colombia known as Areas Most Affected by the Armed Conflict (ZOMAC, in Spanish). They are part of Colombia’s rural development strategy known as the Territorial Development Plans (PDET, in Spanish).

Tahiti limes from Colombia to the World

With the assistance of Colombia PUEDE, Tahiti lime producers in Nariño are achieving quality and sustainability certifications for export.

Colombia PUEDE continues to strengthen the cocoa value chain

Cocoa is the main source of income for many farmers in Tumaco and Policarpa. Colombia PUEDE is focusing on strengthening the cocoa value chain by optimizing the post-harvest processes crucial for quality assurance.

The Nueva Esperanza cooperative continues to contribute to local peacebuilding with the production and commercialization of coconut

With the support of Colombia PUEDE, the Nueva Esperanza Cooperative (comprised of ex-combatants turned coconut producers who are in the process of reincorporation into civil life) and Coagropacífico (another project beneficiary organization) are negotiating a commercial alliance for the coconuts value chain.

Colombia PUEDE in numbers

In these first 18 months of implementation, Colombia PUEDE has worked together with the beneficiaries to improve the quality of their products and increase their market connections.