

SEEDING for THE FUTURE

: Coffee farming for sustainable
reintegration in MILF camp



Local context

Bangsamoro region, particularly in areas within recognized **Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF)** camps, continues to grapple with the *socioeconomic* aftermath of decades-long armed conflict.

Despite the formal peace agreement and the ongoing normalization process, thousands of *former MILF combatants* remain economically marginalized and face limited opportunities for sustainable reintegration into civilian life.

Local context

Agriculture remains a crucial source of livelihood in the region; however, many former combatants encounter significant *challenges in accessing resources, training, and markets*.

With the former combatants still *facing economic challenges*, there is a **pressing need for sustainable, peace aligned livelihood** programs that empower former combatants economically while reinforcing their role in peacebuilding and development.

Prevailing Challenges

- *Economic marginalization* of former combatants
- *Limited access* to resources and skills development
- Underdeveloped agricultural *value chains*
- *Inadequate support* for peace-aligned livelihood program
- *Structural barriers* to market access
- *Political instability* and governance challenges



Refined Solution

Building a coffee value chain from farm to market

because of the region's favorable climate for coffee and the growing global demand for specialty coffee



Solution in Actions

- *Finding existing groups to strengthen or to set up cooperatives*
- **Capacity building** for coffee farmers
 - Coffee production and processing by using agroforestry and based on local wisdom
 - Complemented training on peace, education, leadership, etc.
 - Engaging women, youth, and vulnerable people
- Making an original **coffee drip bag of the Bangsamoro coffee**, adding *premium price* which will turn into a *seed fund* to be used for community development in Bangsamoro

What we still need to figure out? / Next steps

- **Compiling more concrete information** about existing resources, who former combatants are, data, crop calendar, current practices of coffee production, etc.
- **Visiting the Bangsamoro region** to discuss on this potential idea and to see the current situation
- Setting up meetings with stakeholders in the Bangsamoro region for **further cooperations**



The Ask

- Connections beyond the 4th APIF
- Ideas for potential funding donors
- Strategic approaches
 - Collaborating with grassroots communities
 - Business and Human Rights (BHR)





