

# RWENZORI COFFEE FARMERS COOPERATIVE SOCIETY Ltd (RCF)



**Vision:** A community economically transformed from poverty through the production of high quality coffee.

**Mission:** To sustain the income of the farmers and the community in the Rwenzori region through mobilization and training of members in the best practices of agriculture and marketing for better quality products and high incomes.

## HISTORY

Rwenzori Coffee Farmers Cooperative Society Ltd was established in 2009 as Rwenzori coffee traders Association. In 2010 the organization involved other farmer's cooperative society. The aim of the change was because farmers who traded their coffee under the trader association felt the need to expand the opportunity of putting their coffee product together thus bulking it with a view of increasing production and having a higher control over the value chain, quality and competitiveness.

## PROGRAMS

**Revolutionizing the coffee plants:** Under this program, the Cooperative sensitizes the coffee farmers to increase coffee production by replacing the old coffee trees with new ones. It distributes high quality coffee seedlings to the members of the cooperative.

**Training coffee farmers in proper coffee handling methods:** In this program, coffee farmers are trained in proper methods of coffee handling i.e. picking, drying, storage, sorting and general cleanliness (post-harvest handling).

**Joint Deport Bulking:** Under this program, the cooperative mobilizes farmers to sale their coffee collectively. The coffee is bulked and sold to the national and international markets and after selling, farmers are paid their money. The cooperative may also get a loan and buy coffee from the farmers and sell at a higher cost and gets profits that sustains it.



[www.fcde-isla.org](http://www.fcde-isla.org)

## CHALLENGES

The coffee trees get attacked by the Coffee Twig Borer which affects the yields.

Price fluctuation of coffee on the world market.

Climate variation (long drought) affects the quality of coffee beans and yield less income.

High interest rate charged by financial institutions on credit for agro-business.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

375 coffee farmers have received high quality coffee seedlings to revamp the coffee gardens

200 coffee farmers are bulking their coffee through the cooperative.

1124 coffee farmers have been assessed

Trained farmers in agronomics

Supplied 50 tapelines to farmers to improve coffee quality

