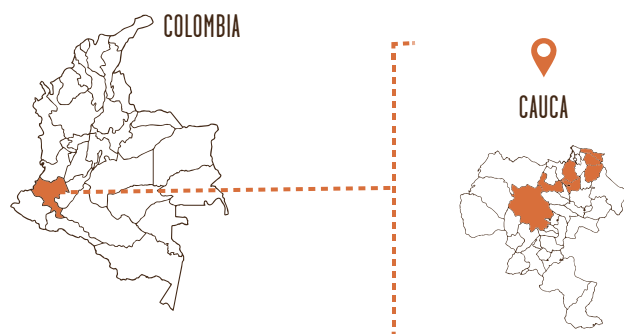




CENCOIC

Central Cooperativa Indígena del Cauca



"Cencoic was born from a social movement in search of recognition of our rights as indigenous communities. We endeavor to maintain the production of high quality coffee, conserve our social and cultural practices, and promote the wellbeing of our communities and the peace our country deserves."

-Juan Pablo Guampe

Cencoic is the interface between coffee growers of the autonomous Nasa indigenous communities of Cauca and the modern global economy. One of their main purposes is to elevate the negotiating position of indigenous coffee farmers from fragmented smallholders with little bargaining power in commercial supply chains dominated by massive trading entities. Working in collaboration as a unified force, they are able to collectively channel a consolidated, desirable supply with a known commercial value to the market, standing toe to toe with powerful industry players in order to negotiate favorable conditions, resulting in higher prices for producers than those available on the commodity market.

The coop is an important mediator for producers who are often not versed in capitalistic

-  Founded in 1980
-  Regional Focus: Nasa indigenous reserves throughout Cauca
-  Producers: 3,091
-  Harvest: April-August & October-November
-  Production: 12,930 bags
-  Altitudes: 1,400 - 2,200 masl
-  Varieties: Castillo, Colombia, Caturra, Typica, Bourbon
-  Processes: Nearly all washed

business and negotiations. It is also an important social buffer and unifier of the disbursed and isolated indigenous communities in the area, promoting the preservation of cultural values, customs, and collaboration and participation vis-à-vis the solidary economy.

A cohesive group based on common spiritual and community values, they can grow coffee in a way that respects the integrity of the land and their surroundings, according to the indigenous belief system. Thanks to the high level of confidence and trust among members and leaders of the group, they are also able to unify and implement cultivation and processing techniques with relative agility and ubiquity, allowing them to offer a product of consistent quality and consistently low environmental impact.