Coffee Public-Private Task Force

Ensuring a sustainable coffee sector for future generations of producers & consumers

create farmers’ prosperity

support transparent market

build resilience & value at origin
The Task Force: a unique consensus-building model to transform the coffee sector

To adapt to significant and constant changes in the global coffee sector and fit within the specialty coffee market and segment, the ICO Coffee Public-Private Task Force [CPPTF] was implemented to serve as a unique consensus-building model involving all actors towards an overall sector transformation.

Following the signature of the “London Declaration” by 12 private sector companies and welcomed by the 125th International Coffee Council Session, the Task Force was set up by ICO in 2019. Designed to build common ground for a global partnership between the coffee industry and the governments, the Task Force is guided by the overriding vision of the sustainability of the sector and the prosperity of the growers’ communities.

Once a year, the Task Force submits its recommendations to the ICO-organised annual CEO & Global Leaders Forum. On this occasion, together with the International Coffee Council, ICO Members, relevant coffee stakeholders and development partners agree on a joint communiqué which endorses commitments and concrete actions and how to pursue it through the 2020-2030 Roadmap. This joint communiqué is one vital step on the pathway towards a sustainable, transparent and fair global coffee sector in line with the United Nations Sustainability Development Goals.

Three unique pillars

The Members include 18 private sector ‘Sherpas’ - representatives of the signatory companies and coffee sustainability platforms - and 16 public sector representatives of ICO Member countries.

The 2020-2030 Roadmap sets out crucial commitments and targets towards achieving a prosperous, sustainable and inclusive coffee sector.

The Technical Workstreams produce technical inputs and reports to build consensus on priority commitments & concrete actions to implement.
The ICO Coffee Public-Private Task Force is a unique opportunity to enhance dialogue and build consensus between all coffee actors, with a view to achieving coordinated action for a sustainable and prosperous coffee sector at local and global levels.

To ensure that future generations of coffee producers and consumers are committed to a sustainable future in coffee, it is crucial that not only exporting and importing countries, but also coffee farmers, the industry and the civil society, cooperate to address the multiple coffee sector challenges, including the impacts of price volatility; the lack of competitive advantage for certain origins; the insufficient transparency of the sector; and the ineffective enabling conditions for sustainable practices.

Given the unprecedented challenges, business-as-usual could pose a major risk to the sector by compromising the coffee value chain at local and global levels, and threatening the livelihoods of millions of coffee producers and their families that depend on coffee as a major source of income.

Supported by the sherpas, the CCPTF aims to identify the root causes of these issues and enhance complementary-driven action and cross-sectoral approaches to address their impacts on the coffee actors, in particular the farmers, including through the coordination of efforts and funding; the facilitation of effective public-private dialogue; the leveraging of public-private resources and the mobilization of actors to implement commonly agreed solutions.

Thanks to the new International Coffee Agreement, the CPPTF will become a permanent Working Party enabling ICO to be the center of a global collective action, as the unique international coffee diplomacy space, providing ambitious yet achievable pathways for making coffee truly sustainable and reaching prosperity for all coffee farmers.