

## **SESSION 4.2 (PLANTATION AGRICULTURE)**

### **Voluntary Sustainability Standards: The Costs of Compliance for Small Producers of Coffee in Wayanad, Kerala**

D Narayana & Anna Rony

**Abstract:** Plantation economy conjures up a vision of foreign owned, export oriented and slave or indentured labour based agriculture. The main market for the produce of plantations is the metropolitan economy and as such the success of the plantation economy depends on how effectively it moves from 'passive' to 'active' incorporation into the international economy. A major change that has come about in the produce market in the last twenty years is the demand for voluntary sustainability standards compliant produce. With the adoption of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development by the United Nations in its Sustainable Development summit in September 2015 the demand for sustainability standards compliant production is bound to increase. While the Indian plantation economy had its beginnings in Western European enterprise, over the last six decades it has become largely Indian owned and the export orientation too has come down. The large domestic demand is a disincentive to comply with standards but the future of the sector lies in 'active' involvement in the metropolitan economy and not doing so is a sure recipe for the decline of the sector. Governments at all levels in India have an important role to play in evolving a policy framework for the adoption of environmental and livelihood standards as the plantations are located in environmentally fragile ecosystems providing livelihood to some of the poorest population groups.

### **Fair trade as civic innovation? The case of tea certification in India**

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**Abstract:** Workers on tea estates at the beginning of the tea value chain have historically been and continue to represent some of the most marginalised agricultural workers. The tea sector in India is the country's largest formal sector in terms of employment. Yet, wages of tea workers are the lowest among the formal labour force and their living conditions are appalling (Bhowmik 2015: 29).

In this paper, I discuss whether fair trade certification, i.e. the certification of products whose production adheres to a set of social, environmental and governance standards as

fair trade-compliant, can contribute to a transformation of the tea chain, able to support moves towards more decent work. With Biekart et al. (2016), I refer to such progressive societal change driven by civic actors as forms of 'civic innovation'.

The paper is based on a review of existing studies of the impact of fair trade on tea cultivation in India. Waged employment in fair trade tea cultivation is concentrated in plantations in India and growing.

Given tea workers' marginalisation, the analysis of fair trade tea cultivation offers a litmus test of the potential of fair trade certification to promote inclusive development in line with the 8th Sustainable Development Goal to "[p]romote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all" based on partnerships between different societal actors (UN 2015).

## **Analyzing Competitiveness of Coffee Plantation Sector in International Market to Develop Innovative Framework for Inclusive and Sustainable Development**

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**Abstract:** This Paper aims to analyse competitiveness of Indian coffee plantation sector exports in international market. India's competitiveness was analyzed against top 10 exporters in top 9 importing countries by calculating RCA index. Main objective is to understand the position in different importing market. Second objective is to study the main problems faced by small growers and estate managers which hampers the path of development and growth. This objective is achieved by interviewing growers and estate managers. Third objective is to study best agriculture and exporting & re-exporting activity of coffee exporting countries to develop innovative framework for inclusive and sustainable development. Finally few points were highlighted to address to resolve the problem of growers to achieve main objective of achieving sustainability.

# Climate Change and its Impact on Tea Plantation: A Study of North Indian Tea Growing Region

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**Abstract:** The paper entitled "Climate Change and its impact on Tea Plantation: A Study of North Indian Tea Growing Region" is an attempt to deal the impact of climate change in North Indian Tea Growing region in India. Tea plays a very pivotal role in rural development, poverty reduction and food security in the rural population hence gives the balanced socio economic development to the nation. Climate change is an important environmental issues and impacts gradually over the Indian agricultural pattern especially on those crops that are dependent on consistent climatic condition like tea plantation.