



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

UNIDO supports Viet Nam's coffee sector through technology transfer

BUON MA THUOT, 10 November - Despite Viet Nam's leading global position in Robusta coffee exports, the sector is at risk. Changing weather patterns mean that Vietnamese farmers and processors now face various environmental and economic challenges. These include water shortages, soil degradation and declining income due to unreliable drying methods, deteriorating coffee quality and sliding prices on the international market.

On 10 November the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), REPIC, the Hanns R. Neumann Foundation, Viet Hien Company Ltd., the Viet Nam Cleaner Production Center and SOFIES, organized a workshop on "Pyrolysis Technology improves coffee quality". The workshop is part of the "Minimization of Industrial Waste for Low Carbon Production" project funded by the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and aimed to popularize pyrolysis, a successfully transferred technology from Switzerland.

Pyrolysis is a thermochemical decomposition of organic material at elevated temperatures in the absence of oxygen. Pyrolysis of coffee husks creates heat which can be used to dry coffee beans and leaves a solid residue, char, which is rich in carbon content and can be used to improve soil fertility while minimizing CO₂ emissions.

The local Viet Hien Company Ltd was the recipient of technology transfer and developed the prototype successfully in the country. The pilot pyrolysis equipment has been disseminated in the Dak Lak province and also exported to Brazil.

Workshop participants included representatives of local authorities, relevant Ministries and sectors, the Viet Nam Coffee Coordination Board, academic specialists and researchers; international organizations and coffee-processing enterprises and farmers.

The workshop was split into three parts, focusing on the Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) programme in the Vietnamese coffee sector, the potential of mainstreaming pyrolysis technology in the coffee sector and the potential of biochar as soil enhancer and an onsite visit to Binh Minh Cooperative where the pyrolysis technology is applied at farm level. A visit to the workshop of the national equipment provider of the Viet Hien company was also held.

Over the past four years, the project has implemented RECP assessments for 10 coffee and 18 rice processing companies, saving 1.08 million kWh per year, equivalent to more than US\$80,000, and reducing emissions of 621 tonnes CO₂ eq.

<https://www.unido.org/news/unido-supports-viet-nams-coffee-sector-through-technology-transfer#start>

For further information, please contact:

Smail Alhilali

Project manager, PTC/ENV/IRE, UNIDO

[Email](mailto:s.alhilali@unido.org) s.alhilali@unido.org





<https://www.unido.org/news/unido-supports-viet-nams-coffee-sector-through-technology-transfer#start>



December 2017