

# Living Income Work in Latin America

In November, 2024, the Living Income Community of Practice hosted the *Living Income in Latin America: Towards a Prosperous Future workshop* in Bogotá, Colombia. The workshop brought together 80+ experts from NGO's, governments, practitioners, and business representatives to deepen engagement and share learnings on living income in Latin America. During the workshop, we gathered insights on the different work being carried out on living income in the region.

## Strategies to close the income gap



Production & Quality



Prices & Trading Practices



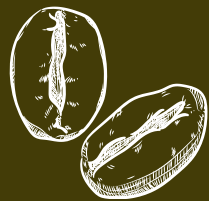
Landscapes & Community Development



Sector & Government Policy



## Sectors identified



Coffee



Cocoa



Banana



Palm oil

The Living Income  
Community of Practice

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## MEXICO

- **AKVO** - Field data validation for the valuation of carbon capture as an additional income for small producers.
- **CLAC** - Living income project development with cooperatives.
- **Griffith Foods** - Strengthening its impact on regenerative agriculture projects with small-scale farmers.
- **International Coffee Organization** - Working on living income benchmarks.



## GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA

- **AKVO** - Development of practical data tools to improve the livelihoods of small producers.
- **CLAC Honduras** - Project with a toaster paying a living income to coffee producer women.
- **Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung** - Supporting smallholder farming communities, with a focus on youth, to improve their livelihood and climate resilience.
- **International Coffee Organization** - Working on living income benchmark.
- **Ofi** - Closing the living income gap in Honduras Program
- **Rikolto** - Living income programmes in coffee and cocoa.
- **Tchibo** - Support farmers with technical assistance to increase productivity and quality, farm diversification, and environmental measures to become more climate resilient.
- **UNIDO** - Cooperate with national and local governments, as well as cooperatives, on issues such as competitiveness, compliance with regulatory frameworks, and market access to improve producers' incomes, close gender gaps, achieve quality products, among other aspects. In this framework, they are addressing living income as a way to measure impact.



## COSTA RICA

- **GIZ** - Sustainable Agricultural Supply Chain Initiative (SASI) with different projects on living income and living wages in the banana sector.
- **International Coffee Organization** - Working on living income benchmarks.
- **Griffith Foods** - Strengthening its impact on regenerative agriculture projects with small-scale farmers.



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## COLOMBIA

- **ACORN** - Adoption of agroforestry and connection to the carbon market with rural communities, organisations, and professionals in the sector.
- **AKVO** - Field data validation for the valuation of carbon capture as an additional income for small producers.
- **Banana Growers Association of Colombia** - Coordinating with various other sectors to provide technical input on the knowledge gained from the banana sector's experience regarding living incomes and fair wages, as well as identifying best practices that benefit export banana producers in Urabá and Magdalena.
- **C4D and Solidaridad** - Living income study for cocoa in Colombia. More information is available [here](#).
- **Cafexport** - Fundación Local Partners Working with IDH, Nespresso, and Sucafina on projects focused on productivity, diversification, and food security.
- **Caravela** - Farm technical assistance, living income gap assessment, and advocacy for increase transparency and traceability in reporting practices within the specialty coffee industry.
- **Centro de Estudios Regionales Cafeteros y Empresariales** - Conduct socioeconomic research and evaluate sustainability initiatives in coffee and other products. They have carried out living income studies in the coffee sector.
- **Coffee Growers Aguadas Cooperative** - They have 1,570 members, mostly small coffee producers. They have various certifications and sustainable coffee programs, such as Fairtrade and Nespresso AAA, which have allowed them to achieve very good prices for marketing their coffee and access to different programs.
- **Colcocoa** - Cocoa exporters to the EU, currently they have two projects in Huila with IDH on Sustainable Landscapes and Family agriculture to improve the smallholders livelihoods.
- **Federación Nacional de Cafeteros** - Projects focused on climate resilience through SbNs and Cenicafé strategies.
- **GIZ** - [Sustainable Agricultural Supply Chain Initiative \(SASI\)](#) with different projects on living income and living wages in the banana sector



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## COLOMBIA

- **GIZ INCAS G+ Project** - Sustainability of cocoa, coffee, banana, palm oil, and natural rubber supply chains in Colombia with a focus on European regulations through partnerships and innovation.
- **Griffith Foods** - Strengthening its impact on regenerative agriculture projects with small-scale farmers.
- **IDH** - Business model analysis and benchmarking with other models to optimise the impact generated at the producer level (living income) and cost efficiency for the company.
- **ILO** - Setting adequate wages in agriculture with a 4 years project implemented in Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire and Ethiopia with the objectives of reinforcing wage institutions, improving the knowledge of wages and incomes, and working with a selection of global supply chains to improve wages and incomes in the future.
- **LDC** - Stronger Coffee Initiative focuses on regenerative agriculture.
- **Rainforest Alliance** - Supports living incomes for farmers by promoting sustainable practices, establishing income benchmarks, facilitating market access, advocating for fairer supply chains, and providing training for income diversification and resilience.
- **Red Ecolsierra, Santa Marta Sierra Nevada** - Organic and Fair Trade coffee with diversification into apiculture, cocoa, and rural tourism to improve producers' income. Worked on production costs and the Fairtrade/CLAC Technical Committee on Living Income.
- **RGC** - Good practices for productivity improvement and market opportunities.
- **SKN Caribecafe** - Implementation and development of sustainable activities and projects with coffee farmers.
- **Starbucks** - Development of an app to register the cost of production to measure the impact of the income and production indicators.
- **Tchibo** - Supports Farmers with technical assistance to increase productivity and quality, farm diversification, environmental measures to become more resilient



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## ECUADOR

- **Anecacao** - Implementation of business strategies for producers, action plans, and formalisation of intermediaries.
- **ECOM** - Technical assistance in climate-smart agriculture to improve productivity and incomes.
- **GIZ** - Sustainable Agricultural Supply Chain Initiative (SASI) with different projects on living income and living wages in the banana sector.
- **Nestle Ecuador** - Through their Agro-entrepreneurship schools, they aim to promote the diversification of their economy and the creation of future jobs improving producers' income.
- **Rikolto** - Living income programmes in coffee and cocoa.



## PERU

- **AKVO** - Field data validation for the valuation of carbon capture as an additional income for small producers.
- **Nespresso** - Working on human rights, labour rights, inclusivity, gender and youth, diversification, digitalisation, and regenerative and organic agriculture.
- **Rikolto** - Living income programmes in coffee and cocoa.
- **UNIDO** - Cooperate with national and local governments, as well as cooperatives, on issues such as competitiveness, compliance with regulatory frameworks, and market access to improve producers' incomes, close gender gaps, achieve quality products, among other aspects. In this framework, they are addressing living income as a way to measure impact.



## BRAZIL

- **CLAC** - Living Income project development with cooperatives.
- **Griffith Foods** - Strengthening its impact on regenerative agriculture projects with small-scale farmers.
- **International Coffee Organization** - Working on living income benchmarks.





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- **CLAC** - With a presence in 23 countries across Latin America and the Caribbean, CLAC that represents nearly 1,000 organisations, empowering producers and working together to build greater social, economic, and environmental sustainability. CLAC provides technical assistance and promotes a strong and solid voice for producers and workers as agents of change in their reality.
- **COSA** - International organisation working in different countries globally. COSA believe that good data is key for decision-making. They work on the cost of production and actual income as part of the ICO Coffee Public-Private Task Force workstream on market transparency, developing robust methodologies for assessing these indicators. They also work to simplify data collection on cost of production and actual income by using agile technologies — they developed a farmer app for this and are currently rolling out a pilot in Burundi. The objective is to assess the cost of data collection, the quality of the data sent by farmers on a daily basis versus data collected through recall. COSA were facilitators of the DIASCA Actual Income and Cost of Production Working Group, where they identified the most important indicators for measuring cost of production and actual income in a way that is less intensive than what they did for ICO.
- **Fairtrade** - Establishing living income reference prices as a key component of their comprehensive living income strategy, advocating for the industry to adopt responsible purchasing practices, providing training to producer organisations to enhance income opportunities for their members, and monitoring outcomes through the implementation of detailed field records.
- **Keurig Dr Pepper** - Purchase coffee from many countries in Latin America (Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, El Salvador) and aim to complement their impact investments with their purchases. Keurig Dr Pepper strive to use their supply chain power to create a positive impact.
- **Philip Morris International (Switzerland Office)** - Sourcing tobacco from countries across Latin America, including Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, as well as the United States and Canada. Their global KPI is to achieve 100% compliance with living income goals for all farmers supplying tobacco to PMI by 2025.
- **Preferred by Nature** - International organisation, present in almost all Latin American countries, focusing on the forestry, agriculture, and tourism sectors. They promote sustainable management of natural resources. They work on certification (FSC, RA, RSPO, Preferred by Nature Certification, etc.), customised sustainability consulting (policies and procedures, due diligence systems, risk assessment and mitigation, support in aligning with EUDR and other regulations/standards, among others), and projects with small producers.
- **Promecafe** - Living income baseline projects to improve coffee growers' incomes.
- **VOCAL/VOICE** - Research and advocacy, capacity building of local CSOS.

# Organisations that shared their work on living income during the workshop

[Learn more about the workshop here](#)



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**Solidaridad**



NESPRESSO



Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung



# LIVING INCOME IN LATIN AMERICA: TOWARDS A PROSPEROUS FUTURE

Hosted by:

## The Living Income Community of Practice



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