

**TRACEABILITY SYSTEM ADOPTED BY COSTA RICAN COFFEE TO
COMPLY WITH THE GREEN DEAL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

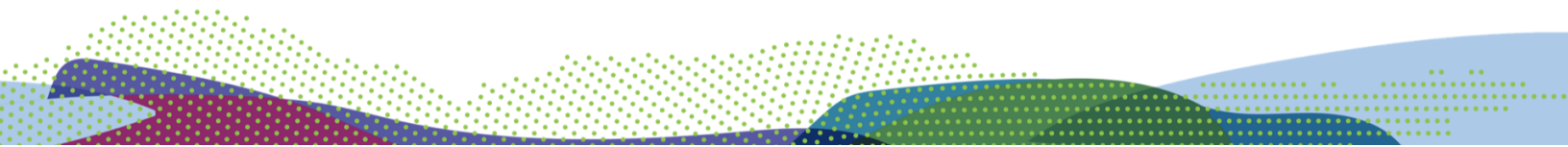
To whom it may concern,

We would like to cordially greet you from the Costa Rican Coffee Institute -ICAFE-, on the occasion of informing all sectors of the Costa Rican coffee industry and associated actors about the traceability system adopted by the Costa Rican coffee value chain. This system has been implemented to comply with the requirements of the European Union, thus guaranteeing transparency and traceability in coffee production.

In this sense, specific actions have been implemented to ensure compliance with European regulations such as:

1. **Formation of the Green Deal Commission:** the comisión was formed in May 2023, made up representatives of the national coffee sector with the objective of making strategic decisions and generating specific actions for compliance with the requirements applicable to the coffee value chain.
2. **Georeferencing of coffee farms:** use of CR CAFÉ tool to georeference plots by means of point for farms smaller than 4 hectares and polygons for farms larger than 4 hectares.
3. **Implementation guide:** to facilitate the application of the traceability system, we have developed a guide detailing the steps to be followed by the producer, coffee mills and exporters.
4. **Informed consent and declarations:** to ensure the veracity of the information, coffee producers must complete and sign a declaration of informed consent which specifies that the coffee produced from their farms is deforestation free and in compliance with national legislation. Coffee mills must submit due diligence statements indicating that the coffee has been grown and harvested in Costa Rica and in compliance with EU regulation 2023/1115 and national legislation.
5. **Implementation of internal systems:** systems were enabled at the ICAFE level for the submission of biweekly reports (in accordance with Law No 2762) as deforestation free coffee being a transparent process for coffee mills. In addition, work is underway to issue a QR code with information on coffee traceability for exporters through the CR CAFÉ tool.
6. **Training for the Coffee sector:** constant training is provided to the coffee sector on the EU 2023/1115 regulation, the use of CR CAFÉ tool and the georeferencing of farms for compliance with the requirements.

It should be noted that the traceability system we have implemented will comply with the dates established in the EU 2023/1115 regulation, specifically as of January 1, 2025 which will guarantee the strengthening of our position in the international market.



This implementation system is a national decision, supported by the national coffee sector through our collective commitment, we are proactively addressing the challenges and opportunities that the European Union presents to us.

We thank all the actors involved in these important advances and urge them to continue working together to continue positioning our coffee as a reference in compliance with international requirements.

King Regards,

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Gustavo Jiménez Elizondo
Executive Director