



Learn about PPKGO

PPKGO is an organic farming cooperative in Aceh, Indonesia with nearly 2,000 members — and it becomes clear that sourcing makes a difference. The cooperative was founded in 1997 through the work of ForesTrade Inc., a Vermont-based producer and distributor of fine organic spices and single-origin Fair Trade Certified™ coffee.

In a province torn by war and crisis, PPKGO stands as a testament to hope:

- Farmers earn a fair price for their coffee enabling the cooperative to improve the quality of their seedlings, create a credit union, invest in infrastructure, and diversify their income into additional agricultural products.
- The thriving cooperative has helped preserve the vitality of Gunung Leuser National Park, home to an environmentally critical watershed and the sanctuary for endangered species such as the Sumatran tiger.

“Our organization is comprised of three major ethnic groups and we really try to keep people unified. We’ve tried to create an organization to promote that ethnic harmony.”

Iswandi Idris

PPKGO Cooperative,
Indonesia



AN INDONESIAN WOMAN WINNOWING CHAFF AND PARCHMENT FROM COFFEE BEANS

- Every day, five different ethnic groups work side by side, producing some of the world’s finest coffee despite the years of armed conflict throughout the region that ended, thankfully, in July of 2005.
- In 2002, ForesTrade was the only U.S. company to receive one of the “2002 World Summit Awards for Sustainable Development Partnerships” for their work with PPKGO, integrating social and environmental concerns and bridging multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- We have contributed nearly \$90,000 in grants to the cooperative since 1997, helping to both seed the cooperative’s founding and support projects like the construction of a local community center.

Sourcing from places like PPKGO helps us ensure that coffee’s first critical steps—on the tree, in the fields, and then in the villages where our coffee is grown—all lead to the highest possible quality of life for everyone in our supply chain.