

# Introduction

The Womxn-POWERed Coffee Summit (WPCS) is a unique place where women across the supply chain gather to conspire towards an equitable and sustainable coffee supply chain and build networks that can hopefully lead to more significant opportunities for smallholder women coffee farmers in the Bean Voyage network.

Bean Voyage is proud to partner with various leaders in the coffee and social impact sectors to build a more inclusive, and accessible space for smallholder women coffee farmers.

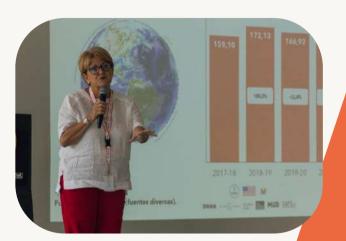
This report provides an overview of the 2022 Womxn-POWERed Coffee Summit which was hosted in Alajuela, Costa Rica. In this report, you will find highlights, insights and feedback that our team hopes to incorporate in future iterations. As our team is putting together ideas for the next iteration, we welcome advisors, partners, and collaborators to co-design a Womxn-POWERed Coffee Summit in the future. In the meantime, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the organizers, volunteers, sponsors, and partners that helped make this first iteration a grand success!

If your organization would be interested in joining us as a partner, we invite you to reach out to us via: **hello@beanvoyage.org** so we can start planning for an even better, and strong iteration of the Summit in 2023!



# Summary of the event





**Presentations** 



**Panels** 



**Sensory workshops** 



Networking



**Showcase** 



**Farm visits** 



### **WPCS** at a Glance





96%
COMPLETE
SATISFACTION

WITH THE EVENT



134
TOTAL NUMBER
OF ATTENDEES



8 /
TOTAL NUMBER OF
WOMEN COFFEE
PRODUCERS



89.7%
EXPRESSED GAINING
KNOWLEDGE TO
APPLY AT WORK



17
BUYERS AND
ROASTERS FROM THE
US, EUROPE,AND
COSTA RICA



LOCAL POLICY MAKERS AND DIGNITARIES

#### Who Attended WPCS 2022?



#### 17 buyers and roasters

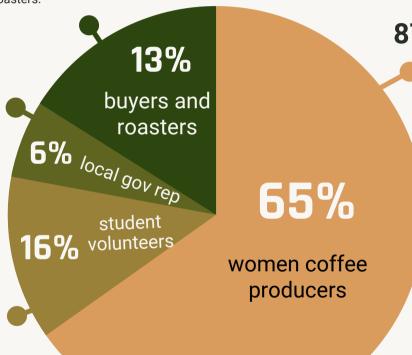
representing US-based importers and roasters, Costa Rica-based exporters and roasters, and EU-based importer and roasters.

#### 8 dignitaries

including the U.S. Embassy Chargé d'Affaires, Vice Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), Vice Minister of Economy, Industry, and Commerce (MEIC), Coordinator of North America and Inclusive Trade Forum of the Foreign Trade Ministry (COMEX), and the Executive Director of the Coffee Institute of Costa Rica

#### 22 youth volunteers

including students from the University of Costa Rica, Veritas University, UN Mandated University for Peace, and local youth from coffee-producing communities.



87 women coffee producers

from 8 coffee-producing regions of Costa Rica including Tarrazu, Brunca, Valle Central, and Valle Occidental.

Out of which, 81% sell their coffee in fruit form to local buyers or cooperatives/associations that process and sell on their behalf, and 19% operate their own mill as a family or individual.

68% said either they would be able to have their coffee processed by local cooperatives/associations or start their own mill to have exportable coffee in the following harvest.





## **Opening ceremony:** Welcome remarks from dignitaries to all participants, followed by a short introduction to the Womxn-Powered Coffee Summit.

by Marcos Mandojana (U.S. Embassy Chargé d'Affaire), Pablo Julián Arias Varela (Vice-minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG)), Christian Rucavado Leandro (Vice-minister of Economy, Industry, and Commerce (MEIC)), Indiana Trejos Gallo (Coordinator of North America and Inclusive Trade Forum of the Foreign Trade Ministry (COMEX)), Xinia Chaves (the Executive Director of the Coffee Institute of Costa Rica), and Sunghee Tark (CEO and Co-founder of Bean Voyage)



#### Care Talk: Coffee Pricing and the Unspoken Dynamics in the Supply Chain by Xinia Chaves (the Coffee Institute of Costa Rica/ICAFE)

How do we unpack the dynamics that define coffee prices? This presentation dove deep into coffee pricing and ways in which the sector can further shift actions towards greater equity.



#### Panel: Supply Chain from the Perspective of Smallholder Women to Women Coffee Roasters

by Maria Delfina Porras Solis (Vamay Coffee), Sarah Girdzius (James Coffee Co.), Lauren Rios Abarca (La Minita / Cattica) and Paula Siles (The Coffee Source)

The panel talked about three pillars of sustainability (economic, environmental and social) in the coffee industry and how they have been impacted and overcome challenges in these areas, as producer, exporter, importer and roaster.





Care Talk: The Power of Platforms: how is Women in Coffee Project Working to Bridge the Gap between Consumers and Producers?

by Amaris Gutierrez-Ray (Women in Coffee Project/Joe Coffee)

Amaris discussed the power of creating platforms that can facilitate knowledge and experience sharing between producers and consumers of coffee in an industry that often benefits from information asymmetry



#### **Documentary Screening: Más Que Un Café**

by Needle and Frame, Bean Voyage, Ericka Mora (Cafe EyF), Maria Jimenez (Microbeneficio La Angostura), Arleen Jimenez (Microbeneficio La Angostura), Margoth Rivera (ASIPROFE) and Tatiana Vargas (Legados del Cafe).

A short documentary following the stories of five women coffee producers affiliated with Bean Voyage. Equipped with knowledge about storytelling and filming, Ericka Mora, Maria Jimenez, Arleen Jimenez, Tatiana Vargas, y Margoth Rivera tell their own stories.



#### Panel: Más Que Un Café Q&A

by Ericka Mora (Cafe EyF), Maria Jimenez (Microbeneficio La Angostura), Arleen Jimenez (Microbeneficio La Angostura), Margoth Rivera (ASIPROFE), Tatiana Vargas (Legados del Cafe) and Fernanda Carrillo Chacon (Bean Voyage).

The producers featured in the documentary, opened the room up for an audience Q & A session after the screening, detailing this experiences of becoming storytellers.





## Care Talk: Let's Talk about Cupping: Accessibility, Standardization and Inclusivity!

by Jen Apodaca (Mother Tongue Coffee)

In this talk, Jen talked about areas that buyers and roasters alike pay attention to when cupping and making buying decisions. It involved tasting various coffees, Jen's thought that went into buying them, their performance in the market, and afterthought.



# Panel: Building the Negotiating Table: What has it meant for young, independent coffee farmers to work in the multi-billion dollar coffee industry?

by Joselyn Fallas (La Chelita Farm & Cafe), Daniela Gutierrez (Cafe Don Lucas & La Montaña Tarrazú), and Valentina Saavedra Gomez (IADB)

The panel talked about challenges in working in the coffee industry as young entrepreneurs, and their experience, and advice in overcoming them.



#### **Care Talk:** Inspiration from Grounds for Empowerment

by Giselle Barrera (Latinas in Coffee)

Having hosted numerous workshops on financial literacy and other coffee-related topics, Giselle shared her experience working with smallholder women and their organizations in Central America.





#### **Care Talk:** Making Music with Coffee

by Loretta Maps Bolt (Biotunes)

Maps hosted an immersive and interactive experience with music made from coffee plants. Participants shared their experiences listening to the music made from coffee plants and the connection that they were able to forge through it.



#### **Tasting Workshop:** Samples from the 2021-22 Harvest

by Fabiola Rojas (Hacienda AltaGracia)

Fabiola introduced the participants to various coffee producing regions of Costa Rica, their characteristics and evolutions that we see in each places. We then, tasted 4 different coffees produced in different regions, and producers.



#### **Panel: Roaster Roundtable**

by Trish Rothgeb (Wrecking Ball Coffee Roaster), Maria Elena Rivera (Coffee Service & Franco), Marcela Porras Elizondo (Roble Sabana Coffee), and Fabiola Solano (Soy Barista)

The panel talked about their experience as women coffee roasters in the US, and Costa Rica -- what worked for them, what they wish they knew when they started with their roasting business and ways that women can design their roastery and how they support one another.





#### **Closing Ceremony**

by Jesse Golland (US Embassy), Noelia Villalobo (Cafes Finos de Costa Rica & Sintercafe), Mohit Mukherjee (University for Peace- Center for Executive Learning & Bean Voyage), Andrea Zinn (Csaf & Bean Voyage), Daniel Vargas (Cafe de Monteverde & Bean Voyage) and Fernanda Carrillo (Bean Voyage)









"It was an opportunity to grow, share and reaffirm my bond with coffee and our BV families through the dialogue of knowledge.

The Summit fostered dialogue and collective learning.

Thank you very much for inviting us to share our experiences."





#### As seen in

click the logo to read each article







## **DAILY COFFEE NEWS**











"In addition to providing us with important technical knowledge, Bean Voyage has managed to motivate and inspire us.

We are a large family that can now see coffee growing as a field of opportunities, in which we have much to contribute."

--- Producer, Costa Rica

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Panel: I







POWERED COFFEE SUMMIT





















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Tresure

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