



STRONG WOMEN = STRONG COFFEE CASE STUDY

BOOTCAMP BUILDS SEED TO CUP STRENGTH

Farmers and baristas come together to achieve a stronger coffee value chain across Uganda, united by the vision to "Know your coffee bean, support and drink Uganda coffee!"

In 2018, Annet Nyakaisiki, a seasoned barista, proprietor of Barista House in central Kampala, and member of the IWCA Uganda Chapter identified a significant disconnect between baristas and farmers. Too many barista colleagues lacked a fundamental understanding of coffee before it arrived at the cafe. Annet also knew that many farmers were unfamiliar with the beverage their beans ultimately became. To address this disconnect, Annet developed and launched a barista bootcamp to build the understanding and relationships that strengthen the Ugandan coffee value chain. Now in its second year, the program has not only strengthened the baristas and farmers who participate directly, but has had the rippling effect of educating and exciting youth and other community members about Uganda coffee.

Learning the Trade, Building Relationships

In its first year, Barista Bootcamp brought together, 50 farmers, 30 women and 20 men, participated in the Bootcamp. The visiting team of 18 baristas, 8 women and 10 men, and 38 other coffee leaders visited farms in the mountainous region of Buginyanya Sironko in Kapchorwa.

In 2019, more than 100 total people participated in the Bootcamp. This time it was hosted in the Rwenzori mountain region by the Namuhuga Joint Coffee Farmers. Many of the baristas were visiting coffee farms for the first time, and farmers were roasting and cupping coffees for the first time.

And in the spirit of good fun - each year the bootcamp concluded with a friendly baristas vs. farmers football match.



2019 participants pause to review the harvest.



IWCA Uganda leaders demonstrate cherry selection best practices. Annet Nyakaisiki shown in center in tan shirt.

Uganda Country Context

- **Population** (2018): 42,700,000
- **Poverty** (2016): 41.7% population living at poverty ratio of \$1.90 per day
- **Gender Inequality Index (GII)** (2017): 0.52
0=equality, 1= high inequality
- **World Risk Index Ranking** (2015): 83
1=high disaster risk, 171=low disaster risk

References

Population & Poverty: <http://povertydata.worldbank.org/poverty/country/UGA>

GII measures human development & status by gender: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/composite/GII>

World Risk Index measures exposure & vulnerability to natural hazards: <https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=ee5978152b5c4cd2aaaaaf3a14d379c8&extent=-180,-86.3126,180,88.0275>

"We had all along been involved in how to pick, dry, hull and market our coffee. Last season we tried the parchment coffee and shared the experience as a team. We realized that this type of coffee was rather tedious though it fetches better price. However, we did not have the drying materials but improvised. Yes, this parchment coffee gave us a good price. The tasting of our own coffee with milk and bread was yet another exciting experience for our members. All the participants tasted the coffee and enjoyed it; the Aroma was wow! Some women packed the finished product and took it home for their family members to taste. To crown it all, we got presents from the Baristas...All the leaders and some farmers got presents, to which we were very grateful. We thank Annet and group for extending this training to us. It was the first time our members learned about taking coffee as food The whole practice of roasting, pounding and stone grinding coffee to produce powder of coffee with good aroma was exciting."

*Lucy, Kabanyoro
Namuhuga Joint Director
2019 Barista Bootcamp Host*



Participants in the 2018 Barista Bootcamp with local radio sponsor.

About Annet Nyakaisiki

In her eight years as a barista, Annet Nyakaisiki has learned the art and science behind coffee. She has won a number of competitions, including the Female Champion for the Uganda National Barista Championship. Annet has been an active member in the IWCA Uganda chapter for four years, during which the IWCA has provided her the support to receive further training, compete in more competitions worldwide, and proudly represent Uganda. She currently serves as president of the Africa Barista Network and inspires other women to be successful baristas. She is well known throughout the IWCA Global Network for her contagious enthusiasm to encourage female farmers to continue to maintain and improve their coffee quality.



Coffee cupping session.



Annet examining coffee.

The IWCA Uganda Chapter was formed in 2010, making great strides to reduce barriers through awareness creation, training, and working to empower, advance and connect women across the value chain. The bootcamp is an excellent awareness activity that requires support. To connect with IWCA Uganda, send inquiry at info@iwcauganda.org or visit www.iwcauganda.org.

The mission of the International Women's Coffee Alliance (IWCA) is to empower women in the international coffee community to achieve meaningful and sustainable lives; and to encourage and recognize the participation of women in all aspects of the coffee industry.