

CAC Alta Montaña (CACCAM) is a cooperative that produces and sells coffee and ginger to coffee traders and retailers like [International Coffee Corporation](#), [Rainforest Trading](#), and Agromar y La Campiña. Founded in 2018 by 82 farmer partners in the Junín region, the cooperative has made a strong commitment to quality and sustainability in all its production processes. They currently manage 1235 hectares of coffee and 60 hectares of ginger.

In 2020, it obtained its organic ginger certification, and in 2021, the Rainforest Alliance certification, confirming its high sustainability standards. In 2023, the cooperative took a further step by obtaining Fair Trade and Bio Suisse certifications. Currently, it has 310 partners dedicated to excellence and sustainability and holds certifications from Organic Canada and the European Union, thus guaranteeing compliance with international standards in sustainable production.

It started as a coffee cooperative, but after the volatility its prices experienced between 2020 and 2021, it decided to diversify its income by producing and commercializing ginger. Today, their sales distribution is as follows: 53% for coffee, 39% for ginger, and the rest from curcuma and orange sales.

CAC Alta Montaña is requesting a USD 100,000 loan to finance their working capital requirements for ginger collection and commercialization.

### Impact Background

The cooperative is located 3 minutes from the main square in the district of Pichanaqui, Chanchamayo province, Junín region. With a total of 310 members belonging to 3 districts, Perené (21% of members), Pichanaqui (68%) and Río Negro (11%).

Agriculture employs about a third of the population in Junin, sometimes referred to as the food basket of Lima. Located in Peru’s central highlands, sprawling forests and mountain ranges nurture productive soils for coffee, ginger, and citrus production. Sadly, despite its contribution to the country’s food security, Junin is one of the ten departments with the highest incidences of poverty.

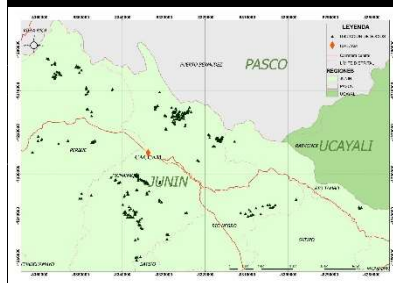
The cooperative’s mission is to market its products using production systems that are economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable. All CACCAM’s suppliers are smallholder farmers. CAC Alta Montaña incentivizes its members to pursue responsible, sustainable farming by paying them a fixed premium of USD 0.14 per kg of coffee, corresponding to the differential established by the Fairtrade and Organic certifications, representing an average premium of 20% above conventional market prices. This premium is variable for ginger (approximately 15% of the price), which is equivalent to USD 0.09 at the current price (USD 0.55).

### IMPACT OVERVIEW

Strengthening the chain value of agricultural and indigenous producers of ginger.

No. of beneficiaries	310 families
% Women	23%

### COMMUNITY

	<b>Country</b>	Peru
	<b>Municipalities</b>	Junin
	<b>Communities</b>	Perene, Pichanaqui and Río Negro



In addition to the organization's economic goals, CACCAM also helps preserve, promote, and disseminate the cultural heritage of native communities, ensuring that their traditions, languages, and practices remain alive and are valued by present and future generations. The organization has 5 native communities in the Junin region, of which its 45 members belong: Native community Sauriaki, San Pablo, San Pedro de Sotani, San Lorenzo de Autiki, and Bajo Chirani. These are part of the Ashaninkas, Peru's largest indigenous Amazonian group. Their identity is closely related to the territory and its defense. Likewise, the link with nature and the beings that inhabit it is of utmost importance since they recognize that everything around them has life. The Ashaninka also acknowledge the importance of promoting the revaluation of their culture, mainly to transmit traditional knowledge and know-how, such as language or the use of plants, to new generations. All of the ginger producers belong to these native communities.



CAC Alta Montaña works to preserve its resources, both environmental and cultural. Some of the activities in line with its mission of preserving cultural heritage are:

- Promotion of culture: Events to promote and disseminate the identity and customs of native communities.
- Commercial presence: Attendance at national fairs to market products, sending representatives of native communities.
- Education: The cooperative provides education for members of the native community and works with non-governmental organizations, universities, and other institutions to research and promote native culture.
- Credit facility: The cooperative offers microcredits and grants to native entrepreneurs who wish to start or expand businesses related to culture and traditions.

## Impact Delivery

### Outcome

*Improvement of livelihood*

- CAC Alta Montaña provides a premium to its members, increasing their income. Besides this, they also provide services, including education, infrastructure, health, and training.

*Cultural preservation*

CAC Alta Montaña strives to preserve and promote the cultural identity of its members, including the Ashaninka, and to enable them to communicate their culture and develop themselves.