



La Asociación de Productores Indígenas Seynekun (ASOSEYNEKUN) is a legally constituted association of Arhuaco indigenous producer families that was born in the heart of the indigenous community of Jewrwa and known for the cultivation of farms in a traditional way while conserving the environment. The Association supports the agricultural sector in Pueblo Bello, a municipality in the northern region of the department of Cesar, Colombia.

ASOSEYNEKUN is initially engaged in the production of coffee and cocoa. In addition, it has also started producing panela after a community analysis three years ago found the potential of cultivating sugar cane in the área. Through the marketing company SEYNEKUN HMYS S.A.S. ZOMAC they seek to generate sales channels for their organic products to the both the national and international market.


They have 263 indigenous producing families, with a production capacity of 360,000 kilos of organic dry parchment coffee flo, 19,000 kilos of organic cocoa and 200 tons of organic pulverized

IMPACT

ASOSEYNEKUN works for the well-being and self-sustainability of the families of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Martha based on cultural strengthening by supporting fair trade processes and the desire to contribute to the socioeconomic and productive development of the indigenous people.

No. de beneficiaries	263 families
% Women	43%

COMMUNITY

	Country	Colombia
	Municipality	Pueblo Bello
	Indigenous Communities	Arawak

panela flo. The Association produces high quality organic flo Seynekun coffee and has been certified organic since 2008 and Fair Trade since 2009. Its products are environment- friendly, contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, and promote the socio-cultural development of indigenous communities.

Impact Summary

According to the Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística (DANE) in its annual report, the poverty rate in Colombia fell significantly in 2021. More than 19 million people lived on less than \$89.50 a month and more than 12% of the population earned less than \$40.70 a month in 2021. Some 19.6 million people in Colombia, out of a population of 50 million, were in poverty at the end of 2021, while 6.1 million lived in extreme poverty, according to DANE.

According to the national census conducted in 2018, the indigenous population in Colombia has grown by 36.8% and now represents 4.4% of the country's total population. Apart from poverty, along with many peasants and Afro-Colombians, many indigenous peoples in the country continue to struggle with forced displacement, oil and mining projects, drug trafficking, deforestation, and landlessness as a result of Colombia's protracted armed conflict.

The Arawaks are one of the most important indigenous peoples in Colombia. Their economic activity is focused on subsistence agriculture, however, coffee is used for commercial exchange and thus obtain products that are not found in the community. They are located in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta in an area called "indigenous reservation".

ASOSEYNEKUN mainly seeks the development and technification of productive capacities that allow the integral improvement of the quality of life of the members of the same, for which the Association carries out the following activities:

Objectives

<i>Institutional Strengthening</i>	Internal improvement of the Association as an open, democratic, transparent, non-discriminatory space with good relationship among its associates, direct, community and external allies.
<i>Sustainable Indigenous Production</i>	Strengthen agricultural activities both for self-sufficiency, as well as for marketing, especially differentiated. Promote and strengthen agroecological, organic or biological production. Provide advice and agronomic, agro-industrial, administrative, legal and accounting technical assistance to the members of the Association, in order to comprehensively improve production systems.
<i>Indigenous Welfare</i>	Contribute to social development – solidarity and the conservation of natural resources as part of the ancestral characteristics of the associates. Promote social welfare by attending, promoting and satisfying the basic needs of the population, especially children and the elderly.

