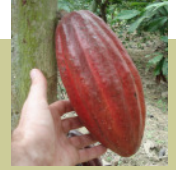


Organic Cocoa Dominican Republic

YACAO S.A.

www.yacao.com



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organisation:

Yacao is a subsidiary of PRONATEC in the Dominican Republic. The company is managed by two Swiss expats and local staff. The main processing and export facilities are located in Medina, Provincia de San Cristóbal, 40 kms northwest of the capital Santo Domingo. Other processing centers are spread over the Caribbean Island of Hispaniola.

### Goals:

YACAO guarantees PRONATEC a stable, long term and high quality organic cocoa supply. Grown and rooted in the baseline farmers organisations, Yacao guarantees the real fair trade ethic. Consequently, the Dominican fundation of organic farmers FUNDOPO has been initiated to:

- maintain a stable local enterprise as link for long term partnerships between farmers and buyers, granting full traceability.
- support farmers with infrastructure, organisation, education and logistics to assure the production of high quality, organic and fair traded cocoa.

Yacao offers to the farmers:

- purchase of the entire crop, to average 10-25% bonus price.
- prefinancing of harvest costs and organic certification.
- permanent training and advice on agricultural and social topics through a team of highly professional agronomists.
- strengthening of farmers organisations.
- high quality, drafted, cocoa seedlings at cost price.
- on site education in demonstrative cocoa plantations.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Founded in 1999 in Yamasá region with Swiss capital (PRONATEC) to promote organic cocoa growing and to generate basic income for farmers. Yacao is now established as a reliable local enterprise and exporter with social responsibility. Grown from 84 families in 2004 to more than 1300 affiliated families in 2008. Nowadays more that 10 farmer associations have been set up, and 4 processing centres have been established to enhance service quality to farmers and buyers. Today the organisation employs 30 permanent and up to 60 seasonal workers.

YACAO S.A.  
Medina,  
San Cristóbal

## PRODUCT (COCOA):

Cocoa beans are collected fresh on the farms and then fermented, dried and selected in fermentation centers for optimized quality management. Yacao produces export ready Hispaniola and Sanchez cocoa.

### Zertifikate:

BioSuisse, EU-Bio (EG 834/2007), NOP, FLO fair trade



## ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

- Quality management for Hispaniola and Sanchez cocoa
- Logistic management of cocoa beans from farm to customer
- 4 centralized processing centres, controlled fermentation
- On site purchase of fresh cocoa (against cash)
- Farmers training and technical support, farmer field schools
- Support of FUNDOPO farmers organisation which manages fair trade projects
- Organic certification including internal control system
- Loma Los Pinos reforestation project

## Use of Fairtrade Premiums:

- 42% goes directly to the farmers with their written commitment to use the premium for improvements of their cacao plantations
- 42% are handed over to the local groups to invest into community projects such as purchases of materials for meeting facilities, construction of lavatory, ensuring of water supply and community road construction etc.
- 16% are put aside for the administration of the small farmer organization Fundopo

## PRONATEC'S CONTRIBUTION

- Co-financing of local micro projects
- Long term commitment
- Prefinancing of working capital
- No child labour and forced labour
- Women and men receive the same wage for the same work
- Full support on marketing YACAO cocoa in international markets using YACAO cocoa in our own semi-finished cocoa products, couvertures and chocolates

## GOALS AND PHILOSOPHY

- Maintain a sustainable, healthy business
- Promote fair and respectful behaviour towards the environment, business partners and society
- Set up sustainable projects
- Produce high-quality raw materials
- Establish long-term business relationships
- Support local social structures



- **Full traceability**
- **Fair trade conditions**
- **Environmental friendly production**
- **Trained stakeholders**
- **No child labour**
- **No forced labour**
- **No pesticides used**
- **Agroforestral systems**

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