Invitation – Local Stakeholder Consultation (LSC) – Cerrado Mineiro and Sul de Minas Sessions
Project "Functional Agroforestry for Carbon Removal within Coffee Value Chains in Minas Gerais and São Paulo State, Brazil" (GS23819) under the PoA "Global Syntropic Agroforestry Program" (GS13053)

Dear stakeholder,

GrowGrounds ApS (GG) – a Danish impact-driven start-up focused on reducing coffee's negative CO_2 impact and helping farmers move away from coffee monoculture towards syntropic agroforestry systems – in partnership with Clima Café de Floresta and the cooperatives Cooxupé and Expocacer, would like to invite all stakeholders to a Local Stakeholder Consultation (LSC) for the project

"Functional Agroforestry for Carbon Removal within Coffee Value Chains in Minas Gerais and São Paulo State, Brazil".

The project aims to support coffee farmers in integrating planned tree corridors into their productive full-sun coffee plantations, creating stratified agroforestry systems based on syntropic principles, and promoting:

- carbon sequestration and the generation of Gold Standard-certified carbon removal credits as a new source of income for producers;
- greater resilience of coffee plantations to pests and diseases, drought, frost and wind;
- improved soil health and water regulation;
- strengthened functional biodiversity, including natural enemies of coffee pests and pollinators.

The project will be implemented on coffee farms of producers associated with the partner cooperatives **Cooxupé**, **Expocacer and SanCoffee**, located in the **Sul de Minas**, **Campo das Vertentes and Cerrado Mineiro** regions of the state of Minas Gerais, and in coffee areas of the **state of São Paulo**. Participation is voluntary, with a minimum of 1 ha per producer.

The project will be certified as a **carbon project under the Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG)**, as a **regular VPA** of a **Programme of Activities (PoA)**, whose first VPA (real case VPA) is the WALD project in Mantiqueira de Minas (GS23685). In line with Gold Standard requirements, this consultation is held in **two regional sessions** with the same agenda. You are welcome to attend the session closest to you.

We invite all stakeholders, including **coffee farmers, cooperatives, civil society organisations, women's groups, research institutions, public authorities and other members of the local community,** to attend one of the sessions:

Session 1 – Cerrado Mineiro
Date: Monday, 16 November 2026
Time: 13:30 – 17:30 (Brasília time)
Venue: tbc, Monte Carmelo or Patrocínio – MG
Join online:
https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/3858006900719868?p=8jSbsU71vVbAiLYqB6
Meeting ID: 385 800 690 071 986 8
Passcode: nH3qx9vu

Session 2 – Sul de Minas
Date: Wednesday, 18 November 2026
Time: 13:30 – 17:30 (Brasília time)
Venue: Auditorium of Cooxupé Headquarters, Rua Manoel Joaquim Magalhães Gomes, nº 400 – Bairro Vila Santa Bárbara, Guaxupé – MG, CEP 37834-077
Join online:
https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/3560473650419772?p=8pxtQOXlcCeoMiEAnd

Meeting ID: 356 047 365 041 977 2
Passcode: A64hH2xz

Please find attached a Non-Technical Summary of the project. If you have any questions or would like more details and information about the project before the consultation, please email Christina Singh, Chief Operations Officer of GrowGrounds, at christina@growgrounds.org, or call / send a WhatsApp message to +45 41760744.

Please also use these contact details to share your comments if you are unable to attend the stakeholder meeting.

The agenda, which is the same for both sessions, is shown below.

AGENDA

- Opening and purpose of the Local Consultation (13:30)
- Project presentation: objectives, agroforestry systems, carbon credit calculation and revenue sharing (13:45)
- Coffee break (14:35)
- Questions, comments and formal recording of participants' contributions (14:50)
- Gold Standard social and environmental safeguards and participatory assessment of the SDGs and possible risks (15:30)
- Grievance mechanism, evaluation forms and closing (16:25 – 17:30)

Kind regards, Christina Singh