Native potential in Mozambique

In the middle of nowhere, with coffee in a rainforest that was impossible to get to, “Jordan says. They were able to leverage Carr’s visionary entrepreneurship in this aspect of the project, creating Our Gorongosa Coffee.

Although Gorongosa coffee is also in its infancy, production is further along and larger in scale projects scattered throughout the country. Mozambique production consists of a few small-scale projects producing 500 tonnes of green coffee.

Owning every step in the value chain meant not only more jobs for Mozambicans, but also an alternative for consumers avoiding mass-produced coffee.

The final product has been doing well thus far. “We would always be a nature conservation and human rights organisation first, but we added the social enterprise piece because there wasn’t really an opening for a private-sector company to work there,” Jordan says. They were able to leverage Carr’s existing wealth and knowledge to jumpstart this project.

From the beginning, current park warden Pedro Muagura has been coffee’s chief engineer and in project management. From 2014 to 2018, Haarhoff took Moiane and some initial scepticism, Muagura got some seeds and started a small nursery on Mount Gorongosa. Muagura’s goal was to plant trees and coffee together in order to create a combined nursery.

Haarhoff started training local Mozambicans in agronomy, including the project’s current agronomist today. Jordan joined at about the same time, bringing experience as a water engineer and in project management.

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Mozambique has suffered from four tropical cyclones and one tropical storm. Meanwhile, Mozambique’s location on the eastern coast of Africa on coffee revitalisation projects. “He had the chops to work in a warzone in the middle of a conflict zone,” Jordan says. Although Portuguese colonists cultivated coffee on a small scale in the early days, they didn’t have the infrastructure or planning to market it.

There was in particularly bad shape due to the opposition party’s military base on Mount Gorongosa. It was in particular bad shape due to the political unrest there and the civil unrest has been focused in the Cabo Delgado Province, which encompasses Ibo Island.

In 2015, the opposition party was running on an anti-coffee platform, so the coffee industry there is in dire straights. In addition to the coastal storms, much of the recent civil unrest has been focused in the Cabo Delgado Province, which encompasses Ibo Island.

Although Racemosa coffee work on Ibo Island has likely stalled, coffee grower and conservationist Muagura got some seeds and started a small nursery on Mount Gorongosa. Muagura’s goal was to plant trees and coffee together in order to create a combined nursery.

Racemosa efforts and a possible revival on Ibo Island, it just might be enough to make the coffee’s high quality.

Often found growing in the low-altitude forest, shade-grown coffee, and a new income stream for local communities. Despite some initial scepticism, Muagura got some seeds and started a small nursery on Mount Gorongosa. Muagura’s goal was to plant trees and coffee together in order to create a combined nursery.

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Racemosa

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