**F11CF - Interview farmer #11- male, Mistrato, 26 - 15-7-2022**

**Specialties/difficulties:**

* **I heard some expressions for which I don´t think there is a translation in English.**

**First, thank you very much. First tell me who are you, what do you do, where do you live.**

I am a 3rd generation farmer from the [name] family. I live here in the [name] farm, [place], in the Mistrató municipality. I work in this same farm with my dad and my brother who right now is bagging bananas in another plot.

**Which products do you have here?**

The main ones are bananas and coffee. Also fruit side products such as mandarins, oranges and also fish. Our main crops are bananas and coffee, and then mandarins and oranges.

**How long is the farm?**

The farm is divided in 2 parts. This part right here is 4 hectares. Up there are also around another 4 hectares of coffee and banana.

**How far away is that from here? Walking at normal speed**

Around 10 minutes. Very close. In motorcycle it takes around 2 or 3 minutes.

**Do you always move around in motorcycle?**

Most of the time. When I have to move from this plot to the other.

**And when you go to the town what do you use?**

Motorcycle as well.

**Who is the owner of this farm?**

My father. It was from my grandfather and then my father inherited it. The plots up there are also from my father. My father has already given us some land so that we can begin to be owners. So up there my brother and I have around 3000 trees. We used to have a paddock but we eliminated it to grow coffee, so we put there another 3000 but now together with my father the 3 of us. So we share the work and support each other in the farm. We are some sort of team.

**The 3 of you work in the farm and your mom is here in the house.**

Yes. We have another little brother, he´s 12 years old, who went help my father to carry bags. He goes to the farm for entertainment so that he does not get bored.

**So cool! Unintelligible**

Because we force him to do it. We have to start introducing him into the farm because they are lazy. And with the phone, as you know, technology has them blocked.

**What do you do to get some rest?**

I surf the internet. I get entertained there. Or I go to the town to get entertained as well.

**How much time is it from here to get to the town?**

In the motorcycle it takes around 10 minutes going slowly. Walking it takes around 20, 25 or 30 minutes depending on each person.

**At what time does your day start? What do you do in a day at the farm?**

Since we have bananas and coffee, bananas require a lot of attention. Every 15 or 20 days we must defoliate it, take dry leaves out. Or weeding the coffee or **Unintelligible or** fertilizing it. There is always stuff to do in a farm, so we do not have guidelines to follow. Instead, it´s like “Let´s go do this and that” and we finish it and then “Let´s do this other thing” and, since it´s 3 of us, we get it done. Our day depends on the **Unintelligible,** when there´s coffee our day starts around 6 am and finishes around 6 pm.

**The whole day.**

Yes. When there´s no coffee, there´s only weeds, so we start at 9-9:30 am and finish around 3:30-4 pm, or sometimes we do not work and just leave. So, it depends on the **Unintelligible** of the farm.

**To get some rest you go to the town.**

I go to the town, or I watch TV, I watch Netflix because we have internet. Or I watch documentaries, sometimes I watch a lot of agro-related stuff. Like a lot of brands showing their products to see how that could benefit me in the farm.

I get entertained with the motorcycles; I am passionate about them. I like to clean them, adjust some details. That´s where my time goes.

**If you want to learn something new about certain topic, how do you do it?**

Through the internet, there´s a lot of things to learn on the internet; it´s not only social media. There´s a lot of books, a lot of scientific papers. I guide myself a lot from Cenicafe. I begin to look for information and if I have questions, I go to the internet. If not, I have friends who are agronomists. I have other friends who are very good professionals, so they guide me and **Unintelligible**

**So cool! Did you study?**

I´m a technologist in the agricultural profession by the UNISARC**,** so I know a lot. I have a strong base and a lot of ideas.

**So cool!**

Yes! We must keep growing professionally.

**If you were told that you can change something from the farm or your life, what would you change?**

The biggest plan that we have for this farm is to turn it into an agritourism model. Because this farm is strategically very well located; it has the river, a very nice valley. So we have thought about turning it into an event center. Or a place where people can get together in a nice, quiet and comfortable environment, close to the town or the entry ways. It is project we have thought about: an event center or something like glamping, something like that, because this is becoming very touristic, it is a very important touristic place due to birdwatching, the waterfalls, the trails. So we think the farm can take advantage of that, because there is the forest area, the trails, people can go to the river to de-stress, we can show them the processing of coffee because here we have the **Unintelligible.** Production**,** here we do the drying, below this, because the house has a double function: you open this and there´s the **Unintelligible.**

**The roof can be moved?**

Yes

**And that´s where you dry?**

That´s where we dry the coffee.

**Since when have you worked here in the farm?**

All my life I have been in the farm. I graduated and got job offers to manage onion crops, manage plots of land, or work for a business as a promoter. However, the income and the salary were not enough, because as a technologist, let´s say with 1.8 M we have to pay transport, food, rent, so I made the numbers and decided instead to come here to the farm. This is my business so, I have worked daily in the farm all my life.

**Who taught you?**

My father and my grandfather.

**What is the thing that you like the most about your job?**

To harvest. For example, seeing a tree grow, the productive stage. Being there since it´s been planted until the harvest of the fruits and then selling them and then getting the profit. That´s exciting, because I see all the effort, sacrifice and sweat translated into money.

**If someone said, “Adrian is good for this in the farm”, what would that be? Like something people would say “If we need this done, Adrian is our guy”?**

Planning. To know what I must do, to not be lost, instead having everything under control. To not do a little bit of everything at the same time, I am the kind of person that begins something and must finish it. I´m a very good planner and organizer.

**When you are not working what do you do?**

In my free time? Motorcycles are one thing. I go to the time and spend time with my friends. We have the group “Empalme Generacional”.

**How is that?**

It is a group of young coffee farmers that want to stay in the field because they saw in it an opportunity to move forward without the need to go to the city. It´s 20 of us, there´s Pato, Camilo Díaz. We formed it with an association called Asojardin café.

**This farm is from Asojardin?**

That´s right.

**Is your father the associate?**

My father is the associate, and we will see if we become associated and obtain a coffee grower ID card with the plots of land that we have.

**So cool!**

Yes, we must do all that. Little by little.

**When you want to relax as a family, where do you go? What do you do?**

My mom is a home body, she doesn´t like to go out that often. She goes to the town, she does whatever she has to do. She works with handicrafts, she does a lot: paintings, bag packs, they are beautiful. She has them down there, I´ll show them to you. Beautiful wayuu bag packs, she does it all. She is a great artist; she gets entertained doing crochet and watching soap operas. She doesn´t really go out that often to the town, she goes to the city for medical appointments or something like that but very rarely. So we do not really go out, stuff like “Ah let´s go out”, no. They stay here at home and chill.

**Is there public transport around here or how does it work?**

Yes, there are Carpatis in Mistrató. They go all the way to San Antonio del Chamí. That´s a place here in Mistrató, I do not know if you have been there. It is 2 hours away from here.

**So from here there´s transport that travels 2 hours to get there.**

Through here, in this road they go. That place is all the way over there, 2 hours away. It´s called San Antonio del Chamí. And from there it takes another 2 hours to reach **Unintelligible,** which is from indigenous people. There´s also a bus that leaves at 9:15 am from Mistrató all the way to San Antonio del Chamí and it comes back at 3:15 pm to go to Pereira.

**So if you do not go by motorcycle, you can go by public transport.**

Yes

**In here you have good internet?**

Yes, the antenna is right there. Do you see it right there? In that eucalyptus? That´s the internet antenna. But we have very bad phone reception. Do you use Claro? In here the reception is very bad. Do you have reception?

**No**

Ah, you can see it then. Here we make do with the internet

**Do you have water?**

Yes, of course.

**Public?**

Our own water source from the **Unintelligible**

**So its water from the Unintelligible that gets here.**

Yes

**What about energy?**

Yes of course, CHEC.

**What do you think has changed in the last few years in the farm or around it?**

The way we see it.

**How is that?**

Everybody goes to the farm just to survive, like to make a living. Now it´s being seen as a business, as something profitable, as a business that can give much more than any other company. Mentality has changed a lot: we must change alongside the world, if not we get behind. If one is left behind, nothing happens, we are left behind. We must absorb all the ideas that are given. We must be like a sponge in this world. Any training that we think is interesting, we should do it. **Unintelligible,** to manage records.We were given access to a records platform where we input everything and it gets tabulated automatically, it gives us the results. We must adopt new technologies in the farm to be able be competitive in the market. Because everyone is now looking for quantity, quality, and good prices, so we must align ourselves to that.

**Regarding support, from whom do you receive it? Have you heard about support from an institution?**

Since we are in the ASOPLAM

**What is ASOPLAM?**

“Asociacion de Plataneros de Mistrató”. Like for technical assistance, we get very good help from ASOPLAM and the Coffee Growers Committee also gives us very good help due to ASOPLAM. Sometimes the government also comes here, the SENA. They visit us and give technical advice.

**Regarding unionizing in the association, do you participate? Or how does it work?**

I didn´t understand

**For example, to participate in the association, in the decision making in Ola 3?**

Ola 3 is our coffee, of the young people

**And you can make decisions regarding it?**

Yes of course, that´s our coffee, we created it ourselves, we make the decisions. But we are backed by Asojardin, so If we have a good idea or option, we tell Asojardin. But the coffee is ours, it´s only to let them know. Because Empalme Generacional was created for Asojardin, we haven´t divided ourselves into another group, we belong to Asojardin

**Do you feel free to express yourselves?**

Lately yes, but at the beginning there where some problems because of that.

**Why?**

Because they were close minded to ideas, they were very afraid of change. So as a young person, we have new ideas. One is crazier in a good sense. They were very afraid of change, they were very afraid to make decisions, they were afraid to risk something. But they have been changing, they have been more open. They have seen that the ideas that we propose have given results.

**In here do you take care of the environment? What do you do?**

“Solidaridad” gave us some trees to plant. I think it´s called **Unintelligible** and that´s for taking care of some trees and taking care of these stripe that is behind you. That is like a savings account. So we planted some trees and we cannot take them out. Even my dadgot a bonus for taking care of that.

**Really?**

Yes. For taking care of that road there.

**How far away is the river from here?**

Look at it, you can stand right there and see it. It´s very close. Everybody gets scared and amazed when they see it because “What happens when it grows?”. What happens is that it takes a huge turn and hits a huge rock there of around 20-30 meters so in here we are at no risk because when it crashes there it continues that way.

**It gets more calm**

Yes

**Do you use fertilizers? What do you use? How often?**

We fertilize 3 times a year with 120 grams to each tree. We guide ourselves from soil analysis, daily we are doing soil analysis. Every year we do soil analysis to see what we need so we do not use much the fertilizer because it is a bit expensive. The brand that we use is Yara. It might be expensive but it has given good yields and good harvests, so we use Yara.

**What about pesticides or diseases related to…?**

Like coffee borer beetle handling? No. Daily we do the “ReRe”: we pick up, check and then we pick up some more. We never use insecticides to deal with the beetles. One time we used *Beauviera bassiana* but as you know that´s an entomopathogenic fungus that doesn´t do anything. To deal with Arvenses**,** we do an integral approach: we change the scythe and use herbicides. Scythe and herbicide, scythe and herbicide.

**Regarding the weather, how has it changed?**

Yes, temperature has increased but right now that doesn´t affect us because this place is bit cold, it is not that hot, so now it gives us more productivity. It stresses the trees more and stimulates them to bloom more. It blooms more and gives us more production.

**It has benefited you.**

Yes, and since we are in this valley, it feels hotter. The river brings with it more heat and this becomes an oven.

**How high are we here?**

Around 1520 meters

**Regarding this house, did your dad built it or your grandfather?**

No, there used to be here an old house made with bareque. And my dad, seeing that my mother complained a lot about the dust, the termites, and **Unintelligible,** so 2 rooms where a bonus from the Coffee Growers Committee, they gave us 2 rooms. By seeing this, my dad saved some money, and he built this house. With a lot of effort, but he managed to do it. It was around 2 years ago when it was finished, because it was just as a shell, it was like that for 6 years: no floor tiles, no plaster, no stucco, nothing. It was around 2 years ago that we put the stucco, we painted it and we finished it.

**It is very pretty.**

Yes, it is very pretty, eye-catching.

**And there are bathrooms? Everything is good? Your mom is happy?**

Yes of course, and even more with the floor tiles, more during winter. It is very comfortable now with the floor like this.

**Regarding things you´d like to change from your house? Or is it okay like this?**

Like from the house only or from the whole farm?

**Any of them, or even both if you want.**

I would like to take more advantage from the side products of coffee, because very little from the coffee is actually used, a lot is lost. And, for example in Santa Rosa there where beautiful handicrafts made from coffee wood, and in here we just leave it or give it away. In another Coffee Fair, I saw coffee yogurt with coffee pulp, so I think that´s innovative and we waste it, well, not waste it because we use it as organic matter for the banana plants.

**How do you use it?**

We leave it to compost with the pulp and when it has a black color, we put the required amount into each banana plant.

**Approximately how much do you put into each plant?**

Since we have a lot of pulp, around 3,4 or 5 kilos to each plant. This doesn´t replace the chemical fertilization, but it helps to condition the soil, so it does not wear off and so it has microorganisms.

**How much time do you leave it to compost?**

Around 6-7 months, 8 months.

**Is it safe here? Is it calm?**

You mean like violence? No, it is super safe. It got better.

**What do you mean that it got better?**

The public force, the so-called guerrillas were present, but not anymore, it has changed a lot.

**Since how long ago?**

Around 20 years

**And they came by through here?**

Yes, they came and parked here and asked my mom and dad for food and then kept going. They were not the aggressive ones like “We are going to take your son with us”; they just came here, sat down, and talked, but that´s very uncomfortable. But nowadays they are not seen anymore, it is super safe here.

That´s why Mistrató has grown regarding tourism because everywhere you went it was the same. Twenty years ago, no one came here. If you go to Pereira and you say you are from Mistrató they will be like “Is it not very unsafe around there?”. They are people who do not know Mistrató as it is now, so they have that idea that Mistrató is violent, that people get killed in Mistrató, that people get kidnapped in Mistrató, that there´s extortion in Mistrató, but nowadays that doesn´t happen anymore. It is very calm. If you go from here to El Cañón, you won´t see a thing, that´s too far away, like 5 hours by car.

**Here in the farm you have the coffee by varieties or how do you organize it?**

We have been planting batches of different varieties. We have Castillo, Castillo Rosario, and the last one we planted that has around 3 months is Cenicafe 1, we are going to try with Cenicafe 1. But yes, they are distributed according to their variety.

**Do you separate them by varieties during the processing or is it all mixed?**

No, we have a blend. We do it because of the meticulous process and we do not have the dryers to differentiate the batches. That will maybe happen when we have a specific market where to sell our product where we are asked like “I just need Cenicafe 1 and will pay a special price for it”. There the effort would be worth it, but right now no because we already sell very good quality products. Our coffee here is mostly “clean cup” or “regional”; 84 points or above, it is very good. But if we start adding unintelligible in processes, fermentations, and drying, the coffee´s rate would be that of a microbatch, which is around 86-87 points or above.

**Regarding profitability. Is this profitable? Having the farm is profitable?**

Yes, of course. If one knows how to manage it. Because there are a lot of farmers that harvest and invest the earnings in TVs, living rooms, dining rooms. They don´t think in the fact that they have to fertilizer again, that they must clean again, that they have to save money for any unforeseen circumstances. So, right now the farm, even with the expensive fertilizer, is very profitable.

**Do you save money?**

Yes of course.

**You save money.**

Yes, I have my savings. Not like for forever but we have something. The advantage is that we do not depend only in coffee growing, that´s what banana is for, we have around 900-1000 banana plants. So that every 15 days gives us an extra.

**You harvest the banana biweekly?**

Yes. Every 15 days we cut the plants. And right now, it has a very good price: 1,400 pesos per kilo. So that helps a lot. And when we have mandarins, we go sell them and it also adds to farm. So, we do not depend entirely on coffee farming. Coffee has only 2 harvests, and they have very little **Unintelligible.**

**When are these 2 harvests?**

One is around March-April, around June. The other one is around November-December. But with this weather, the tree is blooming daily so we harvest coffee everyday but very little. That´s why it´s good to have the banana and other stuff that provide an extra income.

**During production peaks, do you hire someone else?**

Yes, my father knows an indigenous worker, he has been working for around 25-26 years. So when there is a coffee harvest, my father tells them, it´s him, his wife and 2 sisters, that´s 4, and with us 3 we are 7.

**So, 7 for the 8 hectares?**

Yes, but not all of them are producing. There are parts that must be rejuvenated, so those rest.

**In the household, who oversees expenses? Of managing money?**

My father is responsible for the expenses. Like, we manage our own expenses, the incomes as well. The ones from the 3 of us, are managed by my dad and during the weekend we get together to check all the expenses. Banana is handled by the 3 of us. So, it´s like “It was 1M pesos for the cleaning, so everybody pays 333,000 pesos” or “The fertilizer costed 600,000 pesos so everybody pay 200,000” and so on. That’s why we make a very good team, there´s almost not any problems.

**If you could buy something to improve something, what would you buy?**

I would invest my money in drying and processing.

**What about the processes?**

Regarding the drying, more area for coffee drying. Regarding the processes, maybe some fermentation tanks or something like that to have a differentiating factor and to see what is the most quantity of good quality I can get, what is the maximum number of points that I can get so that if a buyer comes and says “I need a coffee with this number of points”, I can give him that coffee and keep traceability. That I can say “I can give you that quality daily”.

**You studied at UNISARC, right?**

Yes.

**How did you do it? Did you go there during the weekends?**

It was on campus, Fridays and Saturdays here in Mistrató.

**They came all the way here?**

Yes, they came here Fridays and Saturdays.

**If you could train yourself in something, what would you study?**

Engineering. I would finish the professional cycle. And that´s a goal of mine, I have to do it.

**UNISARC didn´t come back offering engineering?**

No, only for the technical part they came here. I would have to go to Santa Rosa for the professional cycle. So that´s why it is difficult.

**But it can be done.**

Yes, of course. It just takes will and the support from my dad.

**How old are you?**

I am 26 years old.

**You don´t have kids?**

No

**If there is a short course that could take, what would you like it to be about?**

One that is very relaxed. Last week we had a meeting with the Coffee Growers Committee to start planning because we are going to make the Café Mistrató Street, to launch it. So we have a lot of work right now. So they mentioned us about a course about processes and coffee, so I wanted to register the following day but I couldn´t, there were no more places available. So those kind of courses about processes are very good. I want to emphasize in processes and side products, because we already know how to produce coffee, what we have to do know is to give it some added value. Right now, we already roast it, at least we now drink coffee from the farm.

**You drink your own coffee?**

Yes, we roast it. They should come with some coffee any moment now.

**Where do you roast it?**

In the processing plant at Mistrató. Asojardin Café has a roaster.

**So you prepare coffee, take it there and roast it?**

Yes, we take 9 and a half dry kilos. They roast them for us, we pay for that, and we bring it back.

**How much does it cost per kilo?**

35,000 pesos, it´s cheap.

**You drink your own coffee.**

Yes, it´s delicious. We´ll give you some in a bit, I don´t know why it´s taking so long. It´s being prepared.

**What is the thing you feel the proudest of?**

Of not leaving the field. Of not looking to build my future in the city but deciding to be here in the field. Of having the mentality that the field is productive if one knows how to work it.

**What would you like to change from your life?**

Nothing right now. But like regarding what?

**Like personally, work-related**

Sometimes I´m very lazy, very bad at waking up early. When we are very busy, I wake up early 2-3 days and that´s it, so my father gets angry because unintelligible. Sometimes work requires one to wake up early so we do it, and you know that when there are harvest peaks it is very rainy. When there´s a lot of coffee, it is very cloudy and it rains, so it´s even harder to get up. So yeah, I am sometimes lazy.

**How are things health-related? All good?**

Yes, thank God. I have a problem in my knee, I have a ruptured cruciate ligament, the anterior cruciate ligament. So I need knee surgery. Very often I´m at the farm and I have to come back home. For example, when fumigating, if I misstep my knee gets out of place and I fall to ground almost crying, so I have to back home to have some rest and take medicine, an anti-inflammatory, and wait until next day to see if I can work. That´s the only thing.

**How do you fix it?**

I put it back in place myself. I have to sit down, put it up and do it like this. But I am left with a horrible pain, it gets inflamed.

**How often does it hurt?**

That happens because of my own tough work. I have this injury since 3 years ago and I spent 1 year without nothing happening. It was around 6 months ago I jumped from around a height of 1 meter and I landed badly; it hurt a lot. It´s been around 15 days since it has not been out place, before that, it happened like 4 times in a single week. It was horrible. The plan is to stop working for maybe 15-20 days or a month and see if I get the surgery. Because if I keep like this is to keep living with fear; knowing that if I run around, I could fall and might not be able to do anything.

**How did you get that injury?**

Playing football, micro-football in the synthetic field. You went by it. There I fell and hurt my knee.

**What about your family’s health?**

My parents are excellent, they are tough. **Unintelligible**

**How old is your dad?**

He is 54 years old.

**And your mom?**

45 years old. They are relatively young.

**Is your brother studying?**

No, he is not studying, He is 1 and a half years younger than me. He is 26 years old. I think. No! He is 25 years old.

**He is here in the farm all the time?**

Yes, he comes here daily.

**And what about the little one?**

He is 12 years old.

**And does he study?**

Yes, he is in 8th or 9th grade, I don´t remember. He studies there in the school at Nacederos

**What about food? Do you have breakfast, lunch? Or how does it work?**

My little brother, the one studying, he has breakfast here at home, has lunch there.

**At school?**

Yeah, at school, in the school cafeteria. The rest of us here, everything here.

**When you are working, you come all the way here?**

Yes, we come here with the motorcycles, it´s easier.

**So you start working at 6 am already having had breakfast.**

No, we come back to have breakfast at 8:30 am.

**Ah so you leave at 6 am**

Yes, we arrive here at 8:30 am, we have breakfast from 8:30 to 9 am. At 9 am we leave again. We come here at 12 pm to have lunch, from 12 to 1 pm. And then from 1 to 4:30 pm

**At what time do you eat?**

Around 6:30 pm, or 7 pm

**What about liquids?**

For hydration? My father takes a couple of oranges and that’s it. I don´t like that because I get even more thirsty, so I take water. My brother, since he goes to the gym, he has his protein, his shakes. So each one has their hydration method. And when there are other workers they also carry their hydration method each.

**So you don´t have a strict diet?**

No, we burn it all around here. Around here we don´t need a diet.

**Okay, another question, what worries you?**

Violence, I am afraid that it will come back and that we would have to abandon everything. The change the country is going through, one doesn´t know how the new government will affect things. I am sometimes worried about the river. Because up there we have 320 banana plants as monoculture, and the river passes very close to them. Out of those 320 plants we are left with around 300, so I am worried about the river. That´s what worries me, nothing else.

**If you have worries, who do you talk to about them?**

To my girlfriend

**Where does she live?**

In Cali.

**That´s far. Does she come here?**

Right now, she is on vacation from university, so she is here at Mistrató, she has family here. She is from here and 6 years ago she went to Cali. So, yeah, she has vacations so right now she is here at Mistrató.

**For how long have you been a couple?**

It´s going to be 10 months in around 15 days.

**Do you have neighbors? Who are they?**

Right there, there´s a house that is from Mr. Fernando. And behind that pole lives my uncle, Marín. And also the neighbors you saw at the entrance. We are close but also far away, the river divides us, so to go there it is far away. But it is a nice environment.

**What about communicating with them?**

Well, only saying hello, but more closely maybe only when we have “convites” here at the entrance.

**What is a convite?**

Getting people together to take care of this road so it does not deteriorate.

**You do that? Not the municipality?**

No, the municipality brings us the road-surfacing material. Did you see there the soil mound? I go and since I´m friends with the mayor and say like “Mario, mayor, give me 2 dump trucks with soil-surfacing material“ to take care of the road. That´s gets left there so we take some carts and with the help of all the neighbors that use the road we take care of it

**Is it easy to organize people to do that?**

Yes, everyone wants to do it because the road is very useful to everyone. So 5,6 or 8 of use get together and organize it. Right now, it´s a bit deteriorated because of the winter; there has been a lot of rain.

**Right. I will tell you a bit about the project. The project is about taking advantage of the waste. Do you think that you could participate in a project like that? Would you be interested?**

Of course! Everything related to taking advantage and as long as I learn is very welcome.

**That´s the overall idea. The farms would get the waste together and the idea is to take that waste to a plant or a bio-transformation place.**

Waste of what?

**Coffee. What kind of waste do you have right now?**

But wood is a fuel, I don´t know if wood can be considered in there, but…

**How do you use wood, for example?**

We give it away to burn bricks. Or to the people who make arepas, to the people who make carbon. We do not use it.

**Which other waste do you have?**

Like fuels?

**Waste overall.**

Pulp would be one

**What do you do with it?**

It is organic matter

**What about the leachate? The liquid from the washing?**

They go through a process so that they do not contaminate that much. We have a leachate system.

**Like the well**

Exactly, both tanks of leachate. We have an oxidation pond. It comes out of there and goes into an oxidation pond of about 60 meters and then it drains into the river. After an analysis, it was determined that it is 90% pure, very clean.

**So, that kind of waste would be transformed in a plant to obtain biochar**

Is that carbon?

**Biochar can be used as energy or as soil improver. Even for wastewater treatment**

Ah yes like the carbon filter.

**That biochar could be used as any of those 3. Also fuels could be made. Do you think that you would be interested in participating?**

Yes, of course!

**How would transport work? How do you take out the coffee?**

In the steel horses: the motorcycles. When it´s a lot, during harvest season… The last Harvest season we had a lot of production, so the storage capacity was not enough, and we had a lot of piled up coffee. **Unintelligible,** so all the time he had to inspect it; it had a fungus growing on it, so we had to throw it away and the wet coffee we had to sell it like that.

**Regarding the price, is it the same wet and dry?**

No, it gets very low, we lose a lot of money.

**Really? What would be the difference?**

It´s around 40-50,000 pesos per arroba. It is a big difference, but we had to sell it because, we were losing it so we hired a Carpati to take it to Mistrató and sell it. When it´s not a big amount, we take it in bags -1 or 2 per motorcycle- and we to the town.

**Who do you sell the coffee to?**

To the cooperative. The one from the Coffee Growers from this department.

**Regarding the process with this product. Why do you think that people could participate in this kind of project? What would we need to tell them?**

The thing is that it sounds interesting, because you are not messing with the coffee, which is what they sell in the town. Instead, it´s only about side products, which they see as having no value. If they can make something out of it, they will be very interested in that, because in here no uses the pulp, everyone just throws it away in the coffee plantation for decomposition. If they can make something out of that product, they will participate.

**What would motivate them to participate?**

The added value that they are giving to a product.

**Selling it.**

Yes, selling it. I think that would be the main thing. What else? Nothing more, selling it. Farmers like money a lot. Everyone likes money.

**What do you think about this idea?**

It´s excellent. I hope it happens. When would this begin? Or is it just starting?

**We are just evaluating if it can be done or not. Like under which conditions. What risk do you think we should be aware of?**

Maybe permits, I do not know if to transport that you would need permits. Or maybe even the process that is required for the pulp. To see how we need to collect it, if there are any processes required for it to not lose its properties. That would be a thing, but with training that can be learned.

**So, to classify a bit of what we have discussed today. Like an importance scale. Number 1 would be the least important and here would the most important for you. Where would be leisure located on this scale?**

Leisure and entertainment? Regarding what?

**Your general life, like the questions we had before, for example, how important is health for you?**

It´s everything.

**So it goes up?**

Yes

**Mobility.**

Everything

**Also?**

Yes, because a farm without access and no mobility, is not a very productive farm or it increases the production costs a lot. So it´s very important.

**You told that sometimes you get a Carpati, how much might that cost from here to the farm?**

30,000. It´s not expensive but then also using animals increases a lot the production cost.

**Social relations, how important are they?**

A number 5.

**Eating, nutrition?**

The first one.

**Six?**

Yes, without energy one is nothing in the farm.

**Living space, your house?**

Also comfort, 6.

**How important is it for you education and knowledge?**

Six

**Being happy and satisfied with your work?**

The thing is that if one does not do it happy, it´s not going to be a good job. So, a 6.

**Self-determination, how important is it?**

It´s everything.

**So a 6.**

**Taking care of the environment, how important is it?**

It´s everything. Yesterday we were cutting down some trees and it was unintelligible, we had the permits and everything, some eucalyptus.

Look, my brothers are here.

So, they were very old trees, they were very close together and productivity decreased a lot because of their shadow, and we had rejuvenated that plantation, so we had to cut them down

**Six then. And you need permission to cut down the trees, from whom?**

CARDER.

**Does that take long?**

No, it is not that complicated. But for big industries it is easy to pay for the permit, and for us sometimes it is difficult to get it.

**How important is safety?**

Six

**Mental health? Being relaxed?**

Six. One cannot work very well when having concerns.

**Leisure, having fun?**

Around 4-5, a 5.

**Participation, how important is it for you to participate? Like being on meetings.**

A single person cannot do anything, so if we get together… I give it a 6.

**This is like a relation between the coffee sector with the people that have something to do with the coffee sector and that could participate in this BioHubs idea, which can be about biofuels, plastic, a lot of things. So what we did was to identify which people or institutions could be involved regarding how much power they have in the decision making and how much interest they could have in participating in this kind of things. There´s the national government, the regional one, municipalities, maritime industry**

To buy the biofuel.

**Exactly. Platforms, Transport, biomass collector, academia, coffee growers, Cenicafe, the Federation, technology suppliers, cooperatives and the biorefinery where the transformation would be made. Out of these, do you think there´s any missing stakeholders? That you think that have to do with the coffee sector.**

Producers.

**They would be the coffee growers.**

Ah right, there they are.

**Would you move them in the matrix or would you leave them there? Do you think they have more power or more interest?**

There´s no product without them so they can have more power on this.

**So it would be higher power and higher interest. Here around biorefineries?**

Yes

**Which other one do you think is missing?**

Transport is already there, raw materials... No, all of them are there.

**Which one would you move? That you think could have more power or less power, just like you did with the other one.**

I would move this one.

**Transport?**

Yes, because it can get complicated with them.

**So, transport, would you move it to more interest and more power, or would you leave it there on the same line?**

Transport right now is in low interest?

**Yes**

And high power?

**Power is also kind of low, around the middle. Would you put it higher in power?**

Yes

They play a main role in production, so I would put them higher in power.

**Like next to the municipalities?**

Yes

**Which other one would you move?**

What do you mean with “biomass collectors”?

**The people who harvest. They could have an effect somehow**

Not their interest because they collect coffee, and biomass is a side product.

These ones I would also move a bit higher, because it can be very complicated to get workers. A lot. And that means that there is no product as well. I would move them up there, around the municipality.

**What would you like to add? What do you think about the idea?**

If the idea becomes a reality, that would be great. I hope it does.

**Would you like to add something?**

Not really, everything is very well explained. It is a very good idea. I hope it happens.

**Do you think the young people or institutions could participate?**

Yes of course. Young people and also Asojardin if the idea is taken and explained to them, there will be a higher chance that they will be interested in it.

**Thank you so much!**