**🌱 Nonda Coffee Farmers Empowerment Program (NCFEP)**

**Program Duration: 12 Months**

**Delivery Format: Workshops, On-farm Training, Demonstration Plots, Peer Learning, Digital Modules (Optional), and Mentorship**

**Target Audience: Smallholder and cooperative-based coffee farmers**

**📘 Program Modules Overview**

**1. Sustainable Coffee Farming Techniques (3 Months)**

**Module 1.1: Soil Health & Fertility Management**

* Soil testing and analysis (pH, nutrients)
* Composting and organic fertilizers
* Mulching, intercropping, and cover crops
* Erosion control and terracing

**Module 1.2: Climate-Smart Agriculture**

* Shade-grown coffee techniques
* Agroforestry integration
* Water conservation (drip irrigation, swales)
* Drought-resistant varieties and planting calendars

**Module 1.3: Pest and Disease Management (IPM)**

* Common coffee pests/diseases (e.g., Coffee Berry Borer, Leaf Rust)
* Biological vs chemical control methods
* Farm hygiene and pruning strategies
* Use of traps, natural predators, and companion planting

**Module 1.4: Sustainable Inputs & Certifications**

* Organic farming principles
* Introduction to certification standards (Fair Trade, Rainforest Alliance, etc.)
* Recordkeeping for compliance

**2. Quality Control and Post-Harvest Management (2 Months)**

**Module 2.1: Harvesting Best Practices**

* Identifying optimal ripeness
* Selective picking vs strip picking
* Harvest timing and its effect on quality

**Module 2.2: Processing Techniques**

* Wet vs dry processing methods
* Fermentation control
* Pulping, washing, drying, and hulling techniques
* Use of solar dryers and raised beds

**Module 2.3: Storage and Transportation**

* Proper storage conditions to avoid mold/contamination
* Hermetic storage bags
* Handling during transport

**Module 2.4: Cupping and Quality Grading**

* Introduction to cupping protocols
* Defect identification (e.g., quakers, sour beans)
* Hands-on cupping sessions with trained professionals
* Grading and sorting for specialty markets

**3. Business and Financial Skills (2 Months)**

**Module 3.1: Farm Budgeting and Cost Management**

* Farm enterprise budgeting
* Input cost tracking and break-even analysis
* ROI calculations per harvest cycle

**Module 3.2: Marketing and Sales**

* Understanding market channels (local, regional, export)
* Building relationships with buyers and cooperatives
* Branding and storytelling (traceability)

**Module 3.3: Cooperative Management and Collective Bargaining**

* Benefits of farmer groups and cooperatives
* Leadership and governance
* Group selling and contract negotiation

**Module 3.4: Financial Literacy**

* Savings, loans, and microfinance access
* Mobile banking tools and digital payments
* Recordkeeping and farm income tracking

**4. Technology and Innovation (1 Month)**

**Module 4.1: Digital Tools for Farmers**

* Mobile apps for farm management and weather alerts
* GPS mapping for plot planning
* QR codes for traceability

**Module 4.2: Accessing Extension Services and Research**

* Connecting with local agri-research institutions
* Participating in innovation trials and pilot programs

**5. Mentorship and Peer Learning (Ongoing)**

* **Farmer Field Schools (FFS)**: hands-on learning with demonstration plots
* **Mentorship Pairing**: experienced farmers mentor new or younger farmers
* **Monthly Meetups**: review challenges, share solutions
* **Annual Farmer Innovation Fair**: showcase best practices, innovations, and success stories

**6. Monitoring & Evaluation (Throughout Program)**

* Baseline survey at program start (income, yields, practices)
* Midterm and final evaluation (pre/post training comparison)
* Farmer feedback loops and participatory assessments
* Ongoing tracking via digital records (optional)

**📋 Deliverables & Outcomes**

| **Outcome** | **Indicators** |
| --- | --- |
| Improved yields | 20–30% increase in coffee productivity |
| Higher quality beans | 70%+ classified as specialty grade |
| Increased income | 25–40% higher sales revenue |
| Sustainability adoption | 80% of farmers using compost, shade trees, IPM |
| Business literacy | 90% maintaining income/expense records |
| Market linkages | Direct trade relationships established with 2–3 buyers |

**🔧 Support Materials and Resources**

* Field handbooks (in local language)
* Video demonstrations
* Group WhatsApp/Telegram for Q&A and updates
* Access to demo plots
* Farmer Success Toolkit (budget templates, processing SOPs)

**📍 Implementation Partners (Suggested)**

* Ministry of Scince Technology and Innovation
* Abi Uganda
* Micro Support Center
* Private Sector Foundation Uganda
* Rainforest Alliance
* Certification bodies (Fair Trade, Organic)
* Specialty coffee roasters or buyers (for market linkage)
* Financial institutions for microloans