



# 2015 Grant Request

Request: 2015-33

**Project Name:** Back to Organic Project

**Funding Needed:** \$4,965

**Country Most Impacted by Project:** Dominican Republic

**Region:** San Cristóbal - Women associated with the Polo Coffee Cooperative.

**Project Impact:** 25 coffee growers and their families directly as well as approximately 150 family members in the countryside.

**Project Description:** In 2011, coffee rust killed most of the coffee-grower's crops which forced the use of chemicals to save and retrieve as much crop as possible. Many have since surrendered their organic certifications, while others have maintained their organic certification but are suffering a loss of product to yellow rust. Maintaining their organic status comes at a high cost and not enough product can be sold to make up for the expense.

This project will provide the coffee-growers with organic fertilizer and products that will protect against plant diseases, and will provide support through the process of regaining their organic certifications.

**Benefits:**

- Increase of income from the improved value added to the coffee.
- Guaranteed quality coffee that is organically grown.
- Protection of wildlife from the discontinuation of harmful chemicals.



**Café Femenino Foundation**

P.O. Box 2187 | Vancouver, Washington 98668

Phone: (360) 901.8322

Email: [Marilyn@Cafefemeninofoundation.org](mailto:Marilyn@Cafefemeninofoundation.org)

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