



# Coffee from Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's highland terrain gives the island's coffee its distinctive flavour profile, with unique notes and complex characteristics. Visit the MDF stall at MICE'22 to taste rich and smooth coffee all the way from Sri Lanka, sourced from MDF Sri Lanka's partners.



## Ella Coffee Collective (ECC) ✨

ECC is a specialty green bean and hand roasting specialist located in the beautiful mountains of **Ella, Sri Lanka**. ECC sources arabica red cherries from smallholder coffee farmers in and around Ella and wet processes these with 20 hours of fermentation. Dried to perfection on raised African drying beds, the result is high-quality coffee green beans.

MDF supported ECC in setting up its farmer cooperative to source cherries, conduct training for the farmers and operationalise its wet mill. ECC also participated in a series of specialty coffee training MDF conducted in 2022, using these to add value to their coffee processing techniques.



## Colombo Coffee Company (CCC) ✨

CCC collects perfectly processed specialty coffee green beans from **Kandy**, **Bandarawela** and **Nuwara Eliya** through farmer cooperatives, paying premium prices to the green bean processors to incentivise them and their farmer networks. CCC is a key local player that can export sizable volumes of green beans from Sri Lanka. MDF signed a partnership with CCC in 2020 to support the company in sourcing specialty coffee and developing their all-local specialty coffee brand – “Toscana Ceylon.” With MDF’s support, CCC was able to engage directly with smallholder farmers and promote the less labour-intensive and more quality-conscious ‘red cherry sourcing model’. ECC also participated in the specialty coffee trainings conducted by MDF in 2022.



## Helanta Coffee ✨

Helanta is a specialty coffee processor that has mastered the art of fermentation. The company’s red honey coffee green beans have rich flavour notes that appeal to the most discerning consumers.

Helanta thrives on micro-lot production, with wild harvest coffee and red cherries sourced from remote smallholder locations at elevations as high as 1,500m placed in the beautiful **Kotmale valley of Sri Lanka**.

MDF supported Helanta in constructing a coffee wet mill with all the necessary machinery and African sun-drying beds. This has enabled Helanta coffee to produce specialty coffee green beans that have caught the interest of large coffee importers for micro lots.



## Upcountry Brothers ✨

UCB is a top-tier specialty coffee processor in Sri Lanka with a wet mill built to enable high-end specialty coffee processing. They use coffee-drying houses and raised African drying beds to ensure quality and ideal moisture content. UCB’s coffee has potential to grow to cater to specialty coffee consumers looking for “funky specialty coffees,” as well as appeal to premium orthodox specialty coffee drinkers.

Located in the upper elevations of beautiful **Badulla**, Sri Lanka, UCB engages women farmers across its value chain – from cultivation to green processing – and has created over 100 part-time employment opportunities for women-led farming households.

MDF has supported UCB in constructing a coffee wet mill according to specialty coffee processing standards with McKinnon machinery. MDF also supported UCB in constructing a coffee dry house to mitigate rain damage during coffee processing. To improve the knowledge base and capabilities of UCB’s smallholder farmer network, MDF and UCB developed a 360-degree extension module covering all aspects ranging from planting to cherry harvesting.



## Lanka Coffee Association (LCA) ✨

LCA is Sri Lanka’s first coffee industry association, formed to spearhead the revival of specialty coffee in Sri Lanka. LCA has played an integral role in setting up industry norms, co-hosting the first-ever national coffee festival, co-hosting specialty coffee training workshops with MDF, and stimulating industry-wide collaboration. While MDF worked closely with industry stakeholders during the initial establishment of the association, LCA is increasingly leading the specialty coffee revival in Sri Lanka. MDF supported LCA to host the **Sri Lanka Coffee Festival** and specialty coffee trainings.