



MEMBERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION

World Coffee Research (WCR) works with roasters, suppliers, research institutions, and organizations across the coffee value chain to grow, protect, and enhance supplies of quality coffee while improving the livelihoods of the families who produce it. WCR works towards this goal by:

- Working collaboratively with WCR member companies and with other industry stakeholders, including national coffee institutes in producing countries, and research partners from advanced research institutes across the globe;
- Mobilizing investment for coffee agricultural research, particularly for producing-country researchers, to strengthen the development of a pipeline of innovations - knowledge and technologies - that contribute to reducing farmer risk, ensuring stable supplies of quality coffee and increasing the economic, social and environmental sustainability of coffee production;
- Strengthening capacity of coffee researchers at origin and serving as a bridge between the industry and coffee research in producing countries to advance a shared research agenda through partnership and support; and
- Solving problems that matter and ensuring the availability and accessibility of relevant agricultural innovations for coffee farmers and the industry.

Qualifications for Membership

Membership is open to any company whose business depends on or involves coffee and whose membership is consistent with WCR's mission. Other companies or individuals may contribute funds to WCR; however, they will be considered supporters, as membership is based on alignment with the categories and levels of the membership fee structure. WCR member benefits are found [here](#).

WCR strives to partner with people and organizations who share the same ethical standards of practice and commitment to the long-term sustainability of the coffee sector, its people, and communities. We welcome members committed to [the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact](#) for corporate sustainability. Membership is effective on receipt of the membership application.¹ Let us bring the best we have to our shared vision of a productive future for coffee!

Subscription and Application of Funding

Members shall pay an annual fee, as determined by the WCR Membership Fee Structure, found [here](#)². The funds will be requested by WCR during the month(s) identified in the Membership Application/Renewal Form. These funds will be unrestricted and shall be used in support of the organization and its program activities as approved by the WCR board of directors each year. The five-year strategy for 2020-2025, which was developed through a consultative process with the industry and finalized with approval from the board of directors, is implemented through an annual budget and program-setting process. Membership vests on receipt of the Membership Application/Renewal Form, and applications will be reviewed for eligibility and affirmed by the board of directors at their convenience. In the rare event a membership is not approved/renewed, applicants may address the outstanding questions of eligibility with the board of directors and will receive a full refund of their dues if they remain ineligible.

¹ At the Board's convenience, membership will be reviewed.

² During the implementation phase (2022-2023), this amount may be adjusted as necessary by notifying WCR.

Period of Membership

Membership is on a calendar year basis. A member may choose to end their membership by notifying WCR at least 60 days in advance of their renewal date. After membership dues have been paid for a calendar year, membership status and benefits remain active until the close of the year. At the end of the calendar year, the departing member must cease communications about membership status, including usage of the WCR logo.

Tax Information

Contributions to WCR by members of the coffee industry may be allowable as business expenses under applicable U.S. federal and state tax law. Contributions to WCR are deductible expenses in the United States under IRS Section 501(c)(5) as a trade or business expense and other federal and state law. Each member should consult with its tax adviser as to the appropriate treatment of WCR's annual membership expense.

Use of Trademarks and Logos

WCR may use a member's name and logo to indicate that the organization is a funder of WCR; otherwise, WCR agrees to obtain advance approval from the member for any other use of its name or logo (or any other intellectual property). The member may use WCR's name and logo to indicate that it is a funder of WCR; otherwise, the member agrees to obtain advance approval from WCR for any other use of WCR's name or logo (or any other WCR intellectual property).

Research Independence and Mission

WCR's large global membership provides financial strength and diverse perspectives. Our members, contributors and funders provide the resources that allow WCR to deliver research and development activities necessary to fulfill our mission and find solutions for existing and emergent challenges in coffee agriculture. To ensure the greatest return on investment in alignment with our mission and strategy, WCR maintains a position of independence when reviewing proposals, selecting scientific advisors, awarding funding for research projects, implementing programs, producing publications, and creating resources for coffee producers, nurseries and growers or any other work within the scope of WCR's mission. WCR and its board of directors may decide not to accept restricted funds or implement activities that would contribute to mission or strategy drift or create a legal liability for WCR.

WCR is committed to transparency and makes the findings of our research and activities available through peer-reviewed scientific publications, presentations at scientific conferences and coffee trade association events, our website, and various media channels.

Other Disclosures

WCR is a 501 c(5) and registered as a lobbying organization under the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

As WCR strives to ensure the relevance of our work to the broader industry, we engage with members in activities and collaborations in the course of our work, such as member company participation in cupping candidate coffee varieties. These partnerships and collaborations are fully disclosed in our annual report and/or the website.

Useful Contacts

Address: 10940 SW Barnes Road #334, Portland, OR 97225, USA Website: www.worldcoffeeresearch.org

Contact Person: Alexa Heinicke, Corporate Partnership Manager, alexa@worldcoffeeresearch.org

The above are the standard terms for membership with World Coffee Research, as set forth in July 2021. Should there be changes to the standard terms, members will be notified in writing.