



# Alumni Network

# Our Community-Led Development Incubator

## About Us

The Chain Collaborative co-creates opportunities and strengthens capacities for community-led change in the coffee sector. Through an 18-month Community-Led Development (CLD) Incubator program, we build relationships with local leaders in coffee-growing regions, cultivate their project design and management skills, and foster the development of their farming enterprises. Our work allows global communities to combat intergenerational poverty and marginalization in the coffee sector on their own terms, and according to their own visions for change.



## Areas of Impact



Transformative  
Infrastructure



Education



Food  
Sovereignty



Alternative  
Income



Clean Water,  
Carbon & Climate



Gender  
Equity

# The Alumni Network

Our newest program, the TCC Alumni Network, offers CLD Incubator alumni the opportunity to foster longer-term relationships with TCC, fellow past and present Incubator participants, and other like-minded coffee professionals. The TCC Alumni Network also offers alumni the opportunity to further advance their community initiatives, expand their professional networks, continue their coffee education, and work together to create more opportunities and engagement with other coffee industry members.

The TCC Alumni Network is composed of the following four main elements that connect with our core mission, and with our organization's values: **integrity, curiosity, partnership, and belonging.**

Integrity

Project  
Funding



TCC maintains **integrity** through our community-led mission and by maintaining trustful deference to our local leader partners. We demonstrate this through investment in locally-conceived projects.

#### Alumni access:

- Additional project funding from our Alumni Project Fund
- Fiscal Sponsorship from TCC when needed so partners can receive support from other funders

Curiosity

Continuing  
Education



At TCC, we have an insatiable desire to learn about the world around us; we know that it is the **curiosity** of our partners that drives them toward equal inquiry and greatness as well.

#### Alumni access:

- TCC-led courses in sustainability
- Discounts and scholarships to other coffee courses taught by value-aligned academies and instructors



## Partnership

## Belonging

### Strengthening Networks and Connections



### Mentorship



At TCC, we are all about community, collaboration, and connection – the core of true **partnership**. The TCC Alumni Network creates opportunities for our alumni to publicize their work and build relationships with value-aligned actors.

#### Alumni will:

- Access TCC-organized webinars on topics of interest to them
- Form new value chain connections through introductions from TCC and other alumni

The experience of **belonging** is what brings deeper meaning to our relationships at TCC. Belonging connotes a feeling of familiarity, meaningful and felt contribution, and the ability to participate fully.

#### Alumni will:

- Access mentorship from TCC allies looking to share knowledge and co-learn alongside coffee producing communities
- Offer mentorship to current Incubator participants



Join the  
movement  
for community-led  
development in  
the coffee sector!



# Alumni Highlight



**Paula Pérez** is the leader of **Jovemcafé**, a group of 25 women coffee entrepreneurs from Guatemala. As part of the Incubator, Paula and the members of her group created a collective egg-laying hen business to increase income between coffee harvest seasons.

Thanks to their engagement with TCC, Jovemcafé's members report having increased confidence, connections, and capacity to continue turning their future project ideas into realities.

Now, as part of the Alumni Network, Paula would like to continue engaging more young people in her community and building their confidence as leaders. Their next project is a small livestock initiative through which young adults in their community can generate income during coffee's off season.



*“Through the experiences that I’ve had as part of the incubator, I have gained a lot of confidence. I trust myself that I can achieve what I want and work alongside my community despite challenges. After this project’s success, I know I can manage an initiative with a successful business model like this on my own, and I trust that we will be able to carry out many more projects in the future.”*



# How to Get Involved

## Alumni Network Program Sponsorship Opportunities

### LEVEL 1

**\$250** per year

#### Your impact

Contribute generally to the opportunities that alumni will access: the project fund, continuing education, and networking and mentorship.

#### You get

- Company name and logo on all Alumni Network materials.
- One individual social media shout out on TCC's pages.
- A detailed annual report on the impact of the Alumni Network.

### LEVEL 2

**\$500** per year

#### Your impact

Level 1 impact PLUS your contribution will fully sponsor one participant's access to a coffee education course.

#### You get

- Level 1 benefits PLUS:
- Additional updates about the individuals impacted by your support for their education.

### LEVEL 3

**\$750** per year

#### Your impact

Levels 1 & 2 impact PLUS your contribution will be directed towards a specific community initiative.

#### You get

- Levels 1 & 2 benefits PLUS:
- Updates about the specific community impacted by your contribution.
- \$150 off any of TCC's sustainability courses for anyone in your company.

### LEVEL 4

**\$1000 +**

#### Custom Impact

If you would like to contribute to multiple educational opportunities or to a specific initiative designed by one of our alumni, we will design a sponsorship package just for you!

**If you are interested in giving more, let's schedule a time to talk about our CLD Incubator Program and other ways to get involved.**



[www.thechaincollaborative.org](http://www.thechaincollaborative.org)

To help us put change-making power into the  
hands of local leaders, contact us:  
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