

Providing Great Food and Drink While Protecting Latin America's Environment

The eco.business Fund shows coffee, fruit, and seafood as it promotes sustainable business practices in the agriculture sector

Berlin, 26 January 2017 – At this year's International Green Week Berlin the eco.business Fund is presenting three of the Latin American companies it supports under a mandate to foster biodiversity and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Berlin event serves as a showcase for the latest advances in the food, agriculture and gardening industries.

The eco.business Fund provides loans to local qualified financial institutions in Latin America that on-lend the money to companies in the areas of agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and eco-tourism which meet the highest international quality standards and best practices for the sustainable use of resources and biodiversity conservation.

At Green Week for the first time, the fund, along with its local partners and the German Development Bank KfW, an eco.business Fund founder, are presenting the following companies:

Terrafertil, an Ecuadorian manufacturer of healthy snacks, is taking advantage of European demand for Andean goldenberries. This sweet-tart fruit has been touted as a superfood and is marketed as part of the company's **Nature's Heart** brand. Terrafertil provides its agricultural partners with technical assistance in crop management to help preserve the populations of insects and bees, which are important for pollination. The company receives financing through the eco.business Fund partner Banco Pichincha.

Alimentos Prosalud, a Costa Rican supplier of seafood, runs a processing facility that eliminates all solid waste by converting it into fish flour and fish oil. The company employs over 1,300 workers, operates a collection center for the responsible management of all waste, and offers training for employees and communities on recycling and rational use of resources. The company receives financing through the eco.business Fund partner Banco Davivienda Costa Rica.

Tejemet, which produces coffee and operates a chain of cafes in El Salvador, plants 250,000 new coffee trees per year as part of its agroforestry system for shaded coffee. The company is a recognized exporter of certified green coffee to clients all over the world, and its cafes have produced award-winning baristas. The company receives its funding through the eco.business Fund partner Banco Hipotecario.

Dr. Jens Mackensen, chairman of the eco.business Fund, said: "We are excited to have these companies displaying their products at Green Week. Their measures for conserving natural resources, fostering biodiversity, and implementing responsible business practices offer excellent examples of how the fund can effect important local impact."



Advised by Finance in Motion, a leading impact investment company, the eco.business Fund and its partners are providing concrete results of the fund's support for sustainable agriculture in Latin America: Goods on display at the stand are sold to markets worldwide, including Germany. Finance in Motion Managing Director Sylvia Wisniwski, who is scheduled to discuss the accomplishments of the fund and its partners at the fair today, said: "We are proud to tell consumers that the three companies are presenting products at this year's Green Week that were made in an environmentally friendly manner based on recognized sustainability practices. These companies are proof environmental protection can and should be part of every business."

About the eco.business Fund

The eco.business Fund is spearheading the promotion of business practices that contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of natural resources, and climate change mitigation and adaptation through private enterprises. By providing financing for business practices that conserve nature and foster biodiversity, the fund seeks investments with both financial and environmental returns. The fund mainly provides loans to qualified local financial institutions that lend the money to eligible borrowers, which include holders of recognized certifications or those making improvements in line with conservation and biodiversity goals. The fund supports sustainable operations in the sectors of agriculture, fishery, forestry and eco-tourism.

The eco.business Fund leverages contributions from donors, multilateral organizations, and development finance institutions with funding from private investors to maximize outreach and impact. Seed capital was provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, with German Development Bank KfW acting as main sponsor. Finance in Motion, a leading impact investing company, is also an investor.

Operating hand-in-hand with the eco.business Fund, the eco.business Development Facility provides high-impact technical assistance at the sector level to local lending institutions and final borrowers.

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