

GRUPO DE CAFICULTORES	
Total Funding Requested:	\$38,600,000.00
Housing	20,000,000.00
Infrastructure	No projects proposed
Economic Development	18,600,000.00

On 3/6/2018, the Coffee Sector of Agriculture of Puerto Rico submitted a proposal which provided a history of the coffee industry of Puerto Rico, the damages suffered from the coffee farming community, two direct uses of CDBG-DR funding to rehouse impacted coffee farmers, restore coffee crops, and rehabilitate the coffee industry for the future.

- According to the last census, there are 4478 coffee farms and a total of 36.5 million coffee trees. 40% of coffee growers are considered small farmers and operate in a family structure with less than 10 acres planted with the product and 95.5% own their land, while 4.5% are tenants. Most farmers are people over 64 years of age (42.4%), which hinders the ability of our agriculture/coffee industry to renew itself or to turn to a new entrepreneurship, which puts it at risk and makes it vulnerable. More than 1,800 farmers have an income lower than 80% of the median for the area where they live, which makes them eligible to receive assistance from the CDBG-DR program. The concentration of these families is found in municipalities severely hit by the hurricanes, which also makes them a high priority population to receive the assistance of this program.

Information regarding existing unmet needs is summarized as follows:

Housing:

- Estimated at more than 3,500 units

The Coffee Sector of Agriculture of Puerto Rico requests CDBG-DR funding be used to complete the following projects.

Housing

- Reconstruct or rehabilitate homes belonging to coffee growers.

Economic Development

- Provide funding to low-to-moderate income farmers to restore agriculture.