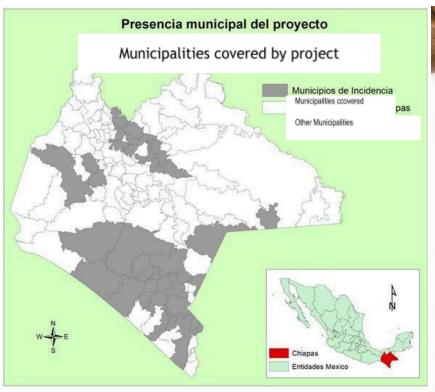




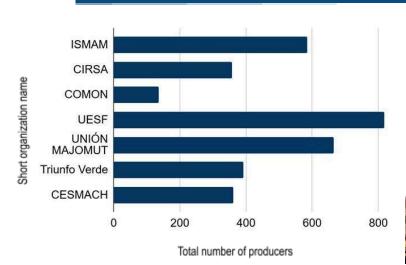




Workshop 1: "Development of a context analysis with cross-cutting dimensions (political, social, cultural and economic aspects) and definition of a biannual action program"



The Project "Great coffees from small producers in Chiapas, SPP Global". includes six strategic thrust areas. As part of thrust area 5. "Strengthening public policy advocacy and strategic alliances", a workshop was held aiming to gather information on the current situation of Small Producers' Organizations (SPOs) in terms of social, cultural, economic and political context. All information generated will serve to design a biannual Action Plan aimed at strengthening public advocacy and strategic alliances.



The Project involves seven Small Coffee Producers' Organizations. These Organizations together encompass 35 municipalities in the Mexican state of Chiapas. This represents a total of 3,317 coffee producers, of which 76% are men and 24% are women.









During the workshop, the main problems faced by coffee producers were identified: labor shortages, low coffee prices, insecurity and high wage costs. These problems, plus a number of additional factors such as: social factors (lack of job opportunities for young people, abandonment of plots, Small Producer Organizations' members getting too old); economic factors (high loan interests, lack of market opportunities, price fluctuations); cultural factors (cultural uprooting); political factors (lack of support from government agencies); environmental factors (climate change, soil erosion); and production-related factors (nutritional deficiencies, pests and diseases, low productivity) have led to decreased sustainability.





