

Nicaragua is the second poorest country in Latin America. It is very susceptible to climate catastrophe.

80% of the population depend on agriculture. But yields are declining sharply, especially their coffee harvests. Cycles of drought and too much rain at once causes real problems.

Fungal growth affects the less hardy coffee varieties in wet times. Poor people suffer the most. The change in weather patterns has meant if there's too much rain, coffee beans can suffer from fungal growth, such as *Colletotrichum proteae*, which causes Chasparria.

Chasparria causes half the bean to become ripened too soon (they look scorched – see picture) and the other half remains under developed. Farmers report losses of up to 30% of their crops. It used to be 5%.

Jinotega is in north central Nicaragua, 100 miles north of capital Managua. This region produces over 80% of the coffee in the country.



Here, our partner organisation is called Soppexcca. They help over 200 coffee farmers to diversify, and grow cocoa.

Soppexcca supplies one-to-one training for farmers. Here, farmers learn how to grow and harvest cocoa. Farmers also attend workshops, and receive tools to help take care of the cocoa plants. In addition, they receive fertilisers for the crops and saplings plants to help shade the plants from the sun once the cocoa plants are grown.

Commitment for Life through Christian Aid is determined to help these farmers and their families thrive. Thank you for your support.