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Helping coffee-farming families improve the quality of their lives.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**COFFEE KIDS ANNOUNCES PROJECT PARTNERS FOR 2008-2009
Many Partners Focus on Food Security as Food Prices Rise**

(Santa Fe, N.M.) – Entering its 21st year of helping coffee-farming families improve their quality of life, Coffee Kids is proud to support 12 project partners in 2008-2009. Coffee Kids partners work in health care, education, microcredit and other community-based programs; many have added food security components this year to address rising food costs.

Many families in coffee-farming communities served by Coffee Kids' partners cited an almost 100% increase in prices of food staples over the past year.

“As populations grow and the demand on land skyrockets, many families are forced to forego education and health care just to feed their families. Our partners are working to address this issue and alleviate poverty in a variety of ways,” said Carolyn Fairman, executive director of Coffee Kids.

Some of the efforts include:

- Self-Managed Development (AUGE), a partner working in microcredit and savings programs in Veracruz, Mexico, will educate their members of the current food crisis and encourage the creation of small businesses that provide locally-grown food.
- The Union of Independent Workers of Alianza Property (STIAP) used Coffee Kids funds to expand their biodiesel program in the past year, but will create a permaculture gardening project to supply their community with fresh, organic produce.
- The Association of Northern Cooperatives of Nicaragua (CECOCAFEN) in various parts of Nicaragua will complement their microcredit efforts with a new “Alternative Markets” program to help small business owners commercialize their products.

Other Coffee Kids partners will address community needs to improve access to education and health care, and diversify local economies for more stable income. All of the programs sponsored by Coffee Kids are created by organizations based in the communities they serve.

For more information on Coffee Kids partners and their projects, please visit <http://www.coffeekids.org/aboutus/>

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Groups receiving Coffee Kids funding in 2008-2009, include:

- **ACMUV**, Chajul, Guatemala – Partner since 2007 – Microcredit and Education
- **ADESPA**, Paraxaj, Guatemala – Partner since 2006 – Adult Literacy, Technical Training
- **APROS**, Lake Atitlán, Guatemala – Partner since 1995 – Health Care and Education
- **AUGE**, Veracruz, Mexico – Partner since 1995 – Economic Diversity, Community Leadership
- **CAMPO**, Oaxaca, Mexico – Partner since 1996 – Training Center Construction
- **CECOCAFEN**, Matagalpa, Jinotega and Nueva Segovia, Nicaragua – Partner since 1998 – Economic Diversity, Education
- **COCLA**, Vilcabamba, Peru – Partner since 2007– Health Care
- **FHC**, Costa Rica – Partner since 1996 – Education
- **FomCafé**, Oaxaca, Mexico – Partner since 2000 – Economic Diversity, Family Gardens, Edible Mushrooms
- **ICSUR**, Chiapas, Mexico – Partner since 2006 – Edible Mushrooms, Chicken-Raising
- **SOPPEXCCA**, Jinotega, Nicaragua – Partner since 2007 – Environmental Education and Leadership Training
- **STIAP**, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala – Partner since 2007 – Organic Gardening



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