



Burundi Karehe Washing Station

IWCA Women's Cooperative

CHERRY – HONEY – CITRIC

AFRICA



Producer: Karehe Washing Station



Processing: Fully washed



Region: Busiga, Ngozi Province



Elevation: 1760 masl



Cultivar: 100% Bourbon



Harvest: March - June



Picking coffee cherries



Busiga, Ngozi Province



This lot is produced by 508 farmers who belong to the International Women in Coffee Association (IWCA). These farmers bring their coffee cherry to the Karehe Washing Station for processing and drying. Our lot is a combination of six day-lots that were delivered to the washing station and blended together. Karehe has historically done well at the Cup of Excellence national competition, submitting coffees that have placed in the top six with average scores totaling 88+ points.

In 2011, IWCA opened a chapter in Burundi. IWCA is an organization that focuses on empowering women in coffee producing countries and has 19 chapters around the world. The Burundi chapter's mission is to improve "women's skills through training and information to enhance their role in Burundian society...and in the coffee sector." The chapter pays premiums to members and has increased the visibility of farmer members to buyers. In addition, members have participated in food security projects and received coffee roasting equipment donated by our partner at origin.

Farmers have relied on coffee production as a way to rebuild the country after decades of civil war and genocide that occurred in the 1970s and 1990s. Coffee is the #1 export for the country and its exportation has a major impact on the country's economic viability.

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