From Bean to Border

The interplay of coffee farming and cyclical migration in Costa Rica

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Background

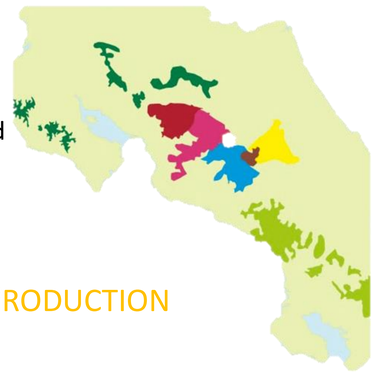
- This study is inspired by a Faculty-Led Intercultural Immersion program, "Global Health in Costa Rica," during which our team spent ten days in Costa Rica learning about the intersections of migration, labor, and public health.

Migration of Indigenous Coffee Pickers

- - Indigenous coffee pickers from the Ngäbe-Bugle tribe will travel hundreds of miles to pick coffee.

Panama-Costa Rica border agreements

- Migration cards for Indigenous people travelling for coffee harvest
- Sereño Border Post
- At the border, migrants go through a check in progress and receive health screenings and education



What we learned

The Process of Coffee Production

Drying, shelling, roasting

Key
- Lodging
- Indigenous territory
- Sereño Border Post

Panama-Costa Rica Border.

Our Journey

Days 1-4: San José
Day 5: Estacion Biologica Las Cruces
Day 6: Estacion Biologica Las Cruces
- Sereño Border Post
- La Casa de Alegria

Day 7: Visited Ngäbe-Bugle indigenous territory
- ASOMOBI

Day 8: ASOMOBI
- Coffee Processing Tour

Day 9: Manuel Antonio National Park
Day 10: San José

Why it matters

Understanding Migratory Patterns: the Costa Rican Point of View on Migration

- There is no illegal migration, just formal and informal migration.
- Those seeking asylum are allowed to enter the country and apply for migrant status upon arrival
  - The process can be long if applying this way

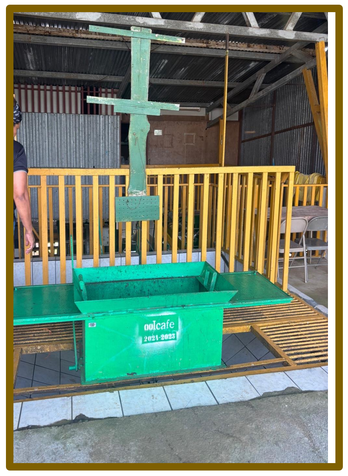
Fincaneros

- Coffee plantation owners and operators of a finca (rural estate or farm)
- Multigenerational farms
- Large-scale commercial operations and smallholder farms
- ICAFE est. 1933

La Casa de Alegría

- Improving lives of migrant families working on coffee plantations
- Comprehensive care for children (0-12 years of age)
  - Health care
  - Education
  - Balanced nutrition
- Exhibits sustainability and social responsibility efforts among coffee producers

Coffee cherry and bean inside.



Machine that filters coffee cherries.

Machine that separates the cherries by size and quality.

Drying the coffee cherries.

Machine that husks and dries coffee.

Roasting the coffee beans.

Processed coffee bean that has been shelled and husked.

Roasting the dried and shelled coffee beans.

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