



# Protecting the Last CLOUD FORESTS OF ETHIOPIA

## Climate Protection and Preservation of the Wild Coffee Forests in UNESCO Kafa Biosphere Reserve

Deforestation of tropical forests is one of the main factors contributing to climate change. Only a few decades ago about 40 percent of Ethiopia was covered by forest; today less than three percent of these areas remain.

One of the last afro-montane cloud forests is located in the south-west of Ethiopia, in Kafa Zone. These cloud forests belong to the 34 hotspots of biodiversity in the world and are considered as origin of the Arabica coffee, an invaluable genetic resource.

NABU has been working towards the preservation of these wild coffee forests, the protection of climate and the improvement of livelihoods. Development of ecotourism, reforestation, setup of a ranger team, community plantations and distribution of energy saving stoves are amongst the activities of the project.



The project area, Kafa Biosphere Reserve, covers 760,000 hectares and was included into the World Network of Biosphere Reserves by UNESCO in June 2010.



Local people make use of the forests in a sustainable way by collecting honey and wild coffee.



30 trained rangers support the management of Kafa Biosphere Reserve for tourism, monitoring and awareness raising.



Seedlings for reforestation of degraded areas and for agroforestry are grown by local communities.

Supported by:



based on a decision of the Parliament of the Federal Republic of Germany



Kafa Zone Administration

