

Project Update: February 2016

The epiphytic garden "Epifitario el Molino de Café" at Community la 23, Guamuhaya, Central Cuba, is now in a constructive process to receive the first visitors, who will attend the capacity building training programme on environmental issues. The visitor centre has been repaired with roof renewal, floor restoration, painting the walls, etc. - everything to become a suitable place to impart the courses with the required quality. Meanwhile, epiphytic plants are growing on trees in the grounds, the personnel are diversifying the production of goods and ecosystems services growing passion fruit on fences and squash under host trees shadow, with a great productivity and a fantastic acceptance by community, the plantation of a new coffee orchard and the breeding of melipona bees to improve pollination.

The garden has already a visual identity inspired in the epiphyte culture and surrounded by green that impress hope for a better future.



Left: A new coffee orchard under shadow. Right: A new coffee orchard.



Left: Breeding melipona bees to improve pollination. Right: Construction materials to repair the visitor centre.



Left: *Cyrtopodium punctatum* in bloom at the garden. Right: *Zamia amblyphyllidia* grows spontaneously at the epiphytic garden.



Left: Miriam the woman attending the garden. Right: Epiphytic Garden LOGO.