Fyffes response

One of those unions is SITRASURAGROH, which is affiliated with FESITRANH. This union has been in existence for some years and was granted legal personality by the Ministry of Labour in October 2018. We have begun negotiations with this union.

STAS is another such union, affiliated with FESTAGRO, which is a recognised union in Honduras but its ‘sub-sectional’ has not been granted legal recognition by the Ministry of Labour as a union on our farms. Despite this, we have written to them in good faith to ask them to begin negotiations.

Reports of threats and anti-union activity by the company are not correct.

We constantly monitor compliance through regular internal and external audits on human and labour rights standards and have corrective action in place to remediate any non-compliances.

We have substantial programs to support workers and the local community neighbouring the Melexa and Suragroh farms; including medical clinics, vaccinations and free medical care for workers and their families, doctors’ visits to the local community every Friday.

We also invest in primary school infrastructure and facilities. We pay for school equipment, uniforms and supplies, as well as scholarships for students.

During the off-season, we donate farm land, husking, irrigation, tractors, fuel and other equipment as well as expertise to local farmers and they harvest corn, chayote, sorghum, cassava and beans. They donate a percentage of what they harvest to families in need, including the elderly, ill and single mothers.

Caoimhe Buckley

Director Corporate Affairs

Fyffes

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