

## About CANDELA Organic

Launched in the U.S. in September 2020, CANDELA Organic provides high quality, high demand natural and organic butters and oils from Peru, including Brazil nut oil, passion fruit seed oil, murumuru butter, buriti oil and cupuaçu butter, to the personal care industry. Its parent organization, CANDELA Peru, is a nonprofit with more than 30 years of experience leading the development of ethical markets for high-quality, high-demand natural and organic products. Since 1989, CANDELA Peru has exported unique Peruvian raw materials, which are now purchased by beauty giants including The Body Shop, L'Oréal and Lush.

CANDELA – Commerce of **A**lternative, **N**ontraditional Products and **D**evelopment for **L**atin **A**merica – Peru was founded by Lupe Lanao Flores, Gaston Vizcarra and Mario Lanao Flores. They created CANDELA as a way to connect buyers with the resources they needed through responsible channels that create sustainable value chains, build ethical markets while protecting biodiversity, and add value to local economies. Lupe and her team went to great lengths to bootstrap CANDELA, cracking raw Brazil nuts by hand and, during the evenings, by candlelight. They eventually negotiated a loan from American-based [Conservation International](#) to purchase CANDELA's first processing plant.

CANDELA partners with Amazonian and Andean producers throughout Peru that wildcraft, cultivate and sustainably harvest a variety of exotic nuts, seeds, fruits and roots for export. As these raw, natural and organic products are in high demand, but low supply, CANDELA Organic creates a new ethically and socially responsible supply chain for domestic buyers. The organization believes strong conservation is created by fostering a connection between customers and the rainforest – more so than just soliciting financial donations. CANDELA creates a sustainable way for Amazonian and Andean low-income rural and indigenous communities to pay for basic needs such as schooling for their children, medicine, and important services such as internet access, sewage and electricity.

CANDELA Organic's products are certified fair trade, USDA Organic or wild-harvested, non-GMO, cruelty free, vegan and free of toxins. In the U.S., **CANDELA Organic's offerings include Brazil nut oil, passion fruit seed oil, murumuru butter, buriti oil and cupuaçu butter.**

CANDELA Organic offers [these products](#) at a competitive price with an unwavering high standard of quality through reliable deliverability:

- **Brazil nut oil** – Brazil nut oil has a sweet, nutty scent that makes it a great fit for personal care products. Light and easy to apply, it provides long-lasting emolliency that can be used all over the body. Naturally occurring in the Amazon rainforest, Brazil nuts in many cases are the only deterrent to land-use change.
  - Used in: skincare products, beard oils, soaps, nourishing shampoos and conditioners, body lotions, and more.
- **Passion fruit seed oil** – CANDELA Peru utilizes cold pressed passion fruit seeds, the byproduct of passion fruit, rather than sending the seeds to a landfill. Derived from the Amazonian superfruit, this ingredient contains linoleic acid that enhances the body's moisture, and has a number of anti-aging effects.
  - Used in: facial and lip care, body butters, lotions, dandruff shampoos, hair conditioners, scalp treatments and more.
- **Murumuru butter** – CANDELA Peru's murumuru butter is derived from its fruit that has naturally fallen to the ground. They are the first organization to use the fruit as a commercial product,

further adding value to the forest. Murumuru butter, similar to coconut oil with a higher melting point, has a fatty acid profile makes it an excellent moisturizer. It is also anti-bacterial and reduces irritation, giving products that incorporate it as a healing component.

- o Used in: moisturizing and curly shampoos, conditioners, pomades, skincare for dry, chapped and acne-prone skin; nourishing soaps, lip balms, anti-aging products and is under analysis for non-comedogenic properties.
- **Buriti oil** – CANDELA Peru’s buriti trees grow on precious peatlands, which store large amounts of carbon in their soil. In order to protect these trees from being cut down, CANDELA provides their producers with climbing harnesses. The oil is a beautiful amber color, and a few drops go a long way. While beneficial for all skin types, it excels in treating dry, mature and aging skin, eczema, psoriasis and other skin conditions.
  - o Used in: anti-aging products, body and facial cleansers, body and facial moisturizers, treatments for dry and damaged hair, and lip care and balms.
- **Cupuaçu butter** – Cupuaçu butter is related to cocoa butter, sharing a similar aroma and luxurious texture. Cupuaçu butter, a byproduct that was previously discarded, restores degraded lands in the rainforest – instead of utilizing invasive species or a harmful mono-crop approach. Due to its rich nutrition and fatty acid profile, it provides moisture, protection and repair benefits for both skin and hair, going so far as to make it an effective treatment for burns.
  - o Used in: hair masks, skincare cleansers, body butter, haircare, cosmetics and more.

CANDELA Organic is committed to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable harvest, facilitating access to market for small producers, and ensuring long-term relationships and fair prices for them. Parent organization CANDELA Peru, with a proven track record of prioritizing social responsibility, is a founding member of the Union for Ethical BioTrade (UEBT) and strictly adheres to the principles of the World Fair Trade Organization and UEBT standards.