



CULTIVATE  
BETTER™

*Guittard*  
CHOCOLATE COMPANY

# Progress Report

2023

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## MESSAGE FROM GARY GUITTARD

We are pleased to share our 2023 Annual Cultivate Better, Cultivate Better Cocoa and Cocoa & Forest Initiative Progress report for the period from October 1st, 2021 to September 30th, 2022. This is the second year we have published this combined report and are excited to see the progress and the positive impact that we are having together with our partners, our cocoa producers, their communities, and the environment.

As a 155-year-old family company, sustainability and long-term vision are in our DNA. Producing chocolate responsibly, contributing positively to our communities and the environment and working towards better opportunities for future generations is core to what we do.

Investments in renewable and clean energy in our Fairfield and Burlingame facilities are helping reduce our carbon emissions as well as helping reduce costs. During the current year, we are expanding these systems as we work to continue to reduce our environmental footprint at home through targeted water and waste reduction efforts.

We also remain committed to collective action with the cocoa and chocolate industry, origin governments, and development agencies. The [Cocoa & Forest Initiative](#) (CFI), launched in 2017, has been an excellent example of collective action to end cocoa-related deforestation. We are excited for CFI's second phase leveraging industry and origin government investments to protect forests through our 2023 - 2025 Action Plan. The [CLEF Partnership](#) is another excellent example of collective action where the industry is working with the Ivory Coast Ministry of Education and international donors to support educational opportunities for children in cocoa-growing communities.

We appreciate that long-term efforts are required and as market uncertainties and climate change create new challenges for our businesses and for cocoa farmers worldwide, we remain committed to working together with our suppliers, partners, local governments, and customers to build a more resilient and sustainable cocoa and chocolate sector.

-Gary Guittard

# CULTIVATE BETTER

## Sustainability Through Five Generations

At Guittard, we're driven not only by what we make and how we make it, but also by the people we work with and the relationships we cultivate with farmers, suppliers, and customers.

Cultivate Better was inspired by this ethos and embodies our responsible business practices and continual journey toward sustainability. Cultivate Better inspires our industry-leading initiatives that strive to not only cultivate and preserve premium flavors responsibly but also protect and support the people, communities, and natural resources and environments that allow them to flourish for generations to come.

Our initiatives are interconnected, one part cannot flourish without the other, creating an integrated ecosystem designed for the long-lasting sustainability of the global cocoa and chocolate community.



# PROTECTING FLAVOR

A central piece of Guittard’s commitment to protecting the beautiful and diverse flavors in cocoa has been our role in helping establish “Flavor Labs” at the national cocoa research centers in Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Indonesia. Through a matching grant program, in 2022 we partnered with the USDA-funded “MOCCA” project (Maximizing Opportunities for in Coffee & Cocoa in the Americas) implemented by Lutheran World Relief with the support of Belgian NGO, Rikolto. We worked together with Bioversity/Cacao of Excellence to help Ecuadorian cocoa researchers at their national institute, INIAP, exporters and farmer organization members of ANECACAO, the national cocoa exporters association, to update their cocoa sensory practices in line with developing international standards.

As the third largest producer of cocoa, Ecuador plays an important role in the global cocoa industry. “Nacional” cocoa with its complex aroma and floral notes made Ecuador a leading fine-flavor cocoa exporter dating back to colonial times. Today, Ecuador’s Nacional cocoa represents the minority of production and exports having been displaced by the higher-yielding but less flavorful “CCN51” variety. By supporting INIAP’s cocoa sensory capacity, they are in a better position to protect and promote Nacional cocoa and flavor in their breeding programs and extension work with cocoa farmers. With ten ANECACAO participants, this sensory training and alignment on international standards will help cocoa cooperatives and exporters identify and develop high-quality Nacional supply chains creating value for cocoa farmers and help preserve this important cocoa’s place in the market.



# SUPPORTING PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES

The Guittard team actively supports The Boys and Girls Club of America and the Careers in Culinary Arts program (C-Cap), helping future generations access the training and opportunities they need to achieve success.

## ***The Boys & Girls Clubs of San Francisco***

*The Boys & Girls Clubs of San Francisco inspires and enables all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.*

## ***Careers Through Culinary Arts Program (C-CAP)***

*C-CAP is a workforce development nonprofit that provides underserved teens a pathway to success.*

“Our community is an extension of our family; engaging with and supporting our local and global communities is a critical component to building a better business. Focusing on future generations and providing opportunities to achieve success is a major driver for what we do and why we do it. Investing in and providing access to resources is our commitment to the future sustainability of the communities that we’re part of.”

-Amy Guittard, CMO

## Certifications

Certifications play an important role in providing audited structures for industry and confidence for consumers. Guittard maintains through annual audits, products certified by Fair Trade USA, Rainforest Alliance, Organic, RSPO, Non-GMO Project, Kosher, and Halal. All these certifications are underpinned by our SQF food safety program.

Fair Trade has been an important part of our certified chocolate offerings with all our chocolate retail products certified by Fair Trade USA. To strengthen our Fair Trade impact, we are building direct relationships at origin with Fair Trade-certified cooperatives and farmer groups. An example of this is our partnership with Olam (ofi) and the SCOSACI cooperative in Balukuya, in Bas Sassandra Province, Ivory Coast. With a strong partnership and robust reporting, we are pleased to include this program in our Cocoa & Forest Initiative report alongside our Cultivate Better Cocoa report.

Guittard also works with Fair Trade producers in Latin America where premiums support farmers, their communities, and the environment. In Ecuador, Fair Trade USA-certified farmers in the town of Viche in Esmeraldas Province are a dynamic example. This farmer group organized volunteers and with Fair Trade community development premiums built an aqueduct that brought fresh, potable water to hundreds of rural families a dynamic example. This farmer group organized volunteers and with Fair Trade community development premiums built an aqueduct that brought fresh, potable water to hundreds of rural families..



Viche, Esmeraldas Fair Trade USA farmer group aqueduct project construction.

# HONORABLE SOURCING

## Collective Action

To build a sustainable cocoa and chocolate sector, it is essential to partner with and support cocoa producing governments and local institutions to create an enabling environment through sound economic and social policies and programs that allow cocoa farmers, their communities, and the environment to prosper.

**CLEF - Child Learning and Education Facility** - Through Guittard's leadership in the World Cocoa Foundation, we actively support and participate in the CLEF - program, an innovative public-private partnership focused on scaling investments to systemically improve access to quality education in Ivory Coast. Scaling education is an essential tool to promote children's rights and combat child labor. The partnership brings together the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, the cocoa and chocolate industry, and philanthropic organizations. By 2030, CLEF aims to provide quality education for 5 million children and support 10 million parents in their children's learning journey.

To achieve this goal, CLEF is expected to bring effective learning to up to 10,000 primary schools in cocoa growing areas and to construct 2,500 classrooms and other education infrastructure (bridge classes, community schools, school canteens, and pre-school classrooms).

Guittard is also an active member of the International Cocoa Initiative (ICI) an organization dedicated to child protection. ICI is a thought leader in developing programs and researching impact and effectiveness of programs and interventions designed to eliminate child labor or forced labor from cocoa production.



Guittard's Rainforest Alliance - Organic Certified chocolates also provide important premiums and opportunities for farmers. In Peru, our partner, Amazonas Trading, in addition to premiums and certification training, provides training for farmers to help improve yields and income through regenerative agricultural practices such as pruning, agroforestry, composting for improved soil health.



Rainforest Alliance certified producer, Ucayali, Peru

# PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT

## Solar Panels

At Guittard we are committed to minimizing our environmental impact and reducing carbon footprint. In 2021 we commissioned a 1MW solar project at our Fairfield facility. During 2022 the system produced 1,778,301 KWH of renewable energy representing 52% of the facility's usage. The balance comes from community choice aggregator, MCE as 100% GHG-free energy. This year we are expanding the Fairfield solar-renewable energy project with another 750 Kw miles.



## Fuel Cell

On January 1st, 2022, we began producing 650Kw of clean energy through a Bloom Energy fuel cell system on-site at our Burlingame facility. These fuel cells convert natural gas to electricity without burning it reducing our carbon footprint relative to the average energy mix in California. In May of 2023 the second phase of the Bloom Energy project went live with an additional 750 Kw for a total of 1.4MW of clean 24/7 energy.

### Real-World Sustainability Benefits

Annual impacts for a 1.4 MW System in Burlingame, CA



1. Bloom's emissions compared to 2021 eGRID non-baseload emission rates for CAMX  
 2. EPA COBRA Tool (<https://cobra.epa.gov/>)  
 3. Bloom's water use of 1.01 gal/MWh is compared to the USGS United States average water withdrawal for thermoelectric power (<https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=37453>)



## Reducing Water Usage

In 2022 we also advanced our new water chiller system that will help reduce our water usage overall and per pound of chocolate produced



## EV Charging Stations

And, in 2021/22 we installed EV charging stations, building on our first in 2014, offering this benefit free of charge to help employees move to eclectic and plugin hybrid vehicles for commuting, reducing our carbon footprint and our Scope 2 mobile emissions.

### FAIRFIELD

1. 40 Amp, Level 2 Single charger, 2014
2. 50 Amp, Level 2 Shared dual chargers, 2022

### BURLINGAME

1. 40 Amp, Level 2 Shared dual chargers, 2021
2. 50 Amp, Level 2 Shared dual chargers, 2022

# CULTIVATE BETTER COCOA

## Driving Positive Impact through supply chain innovation

Cultivate Better Cocoa is a premium-based program designed to drive change at the supply chain level, benefiting the farmers and communities we work with. It's impact traceable to the farm level—and it's the kind of change needed now more than ever.

Through Cultivate Better Cocoa, we engage with cooperatives and development partners to create comprehensive programs that boost primary income streams by collaborating with farmers to improve and protect the unique flavor profiles of their cocoa. The premiums we receive are directly allocated to supporting farm-level quality and flavor investments, gender equality, income diversification, health, nutrition, and agroforestry initiatives.



### **EMPOWER PROSPERING FARMERS:** Creating value through flavor quality

Cocoa is the primary source of income in many of the communities we work with. By educating farmers on flavor preservation through the use of better planting material as well as soil health, crop diversification, and good agricultural practices, they are able to create a more valuable product. And by recognizing the value of flavor, farmers can access premium markets and build long-term relationships that improve the financial prosperity of their farms.

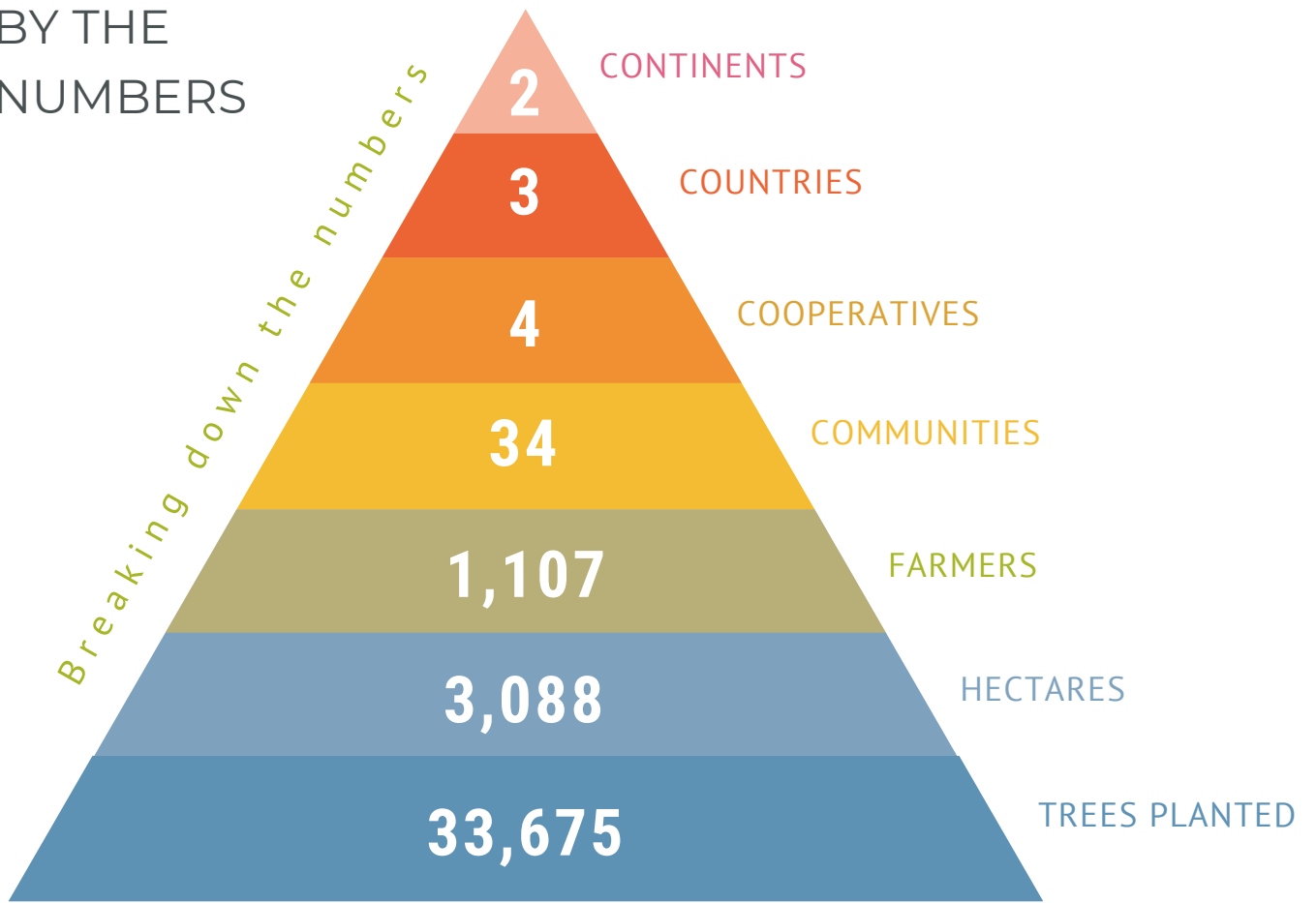
### **INSPIRE THRIVING COMMUNITIES:** Uplifting communities through innovation & education

Poverty is a key contributor to many of the social challenges experienced throughout the cocoa supply chain. By partnering with local organizations to implement programs focused on women's empowerment, income diversification, child protection, education, health, and nutrition, we are able to have a positive impact on the farming communities we source our ingredients from.

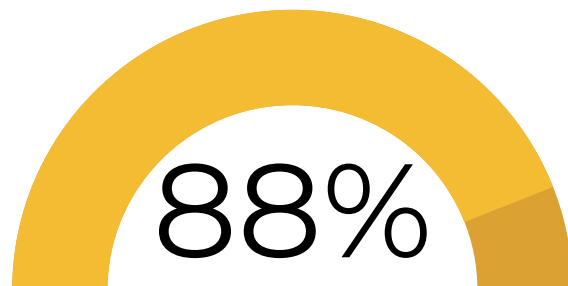
### **ENCOURAGE ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION:** Helping farmers protect their farms & the planet

Providing cocoa farmers with resilience to climate change is key to the long-term sustainability of the cocoa sector. By promoting climate-smart agricultural practices like crop diversification, agroforestry, composting, and the conservation of forests for shade and soil health, we help farmers to create the conditions needed to grow high-quality cocoa, ultimately improving farmers' incomes and the long-term sustainability of their farms.

BY THE NUMBERS



30 VILLAGE SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATIONS  
ACROSS 34 COMMUNITIES



## WHERE WE WORK



### GHANA

**OFFINSO FINE FLAVOR COCOA ASSOCIATION;** OFFINSO, ASHANTI REGION FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED  
**NUMBER OF FARMERS (F/M): 702 (286/416)**  
**APPROXIMATE HECTARES: 1,000**  
**COMMUNITIES: 14**  
**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: TRANSROAYL LTD/TACHIBANA**

**AKYEMANSA FINE FLAVOR COCOA FARMERS ASSOCIATION;** AKYEMANSA, EASTERN REGION  
 RAINFOREST ALLIANCE CERTIFIED  
**NUMBER OF FARMERS (F/M): 277 (177/100)**  
**APPROXIMATE HECTARES: 394**  
**COMMUNITIES: 7**  
**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: TRANSROAYL LTD/TACHIBANA**

### IVORY COAST

**SCOOPSBAD (SCOBAD);** AGOBIVILLE, AGNÉBI PROVINCE RAINFOREST ALLIANCE CERTIFIED  
**NUMBER OF FARMERS (F/M): 305 (16/289)**  
**APPROXIMATE HECTARES: 760**  
**COMMUNITIES: 6**  
**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: FARMSTRONG**

**SCOSACI;** BALOKUYA, SASSANDA PROVINCE FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED  
**NUMBER OF FARMERS (F/M): 363 (40/323)**  
**APPROXIMATE HECTARES: 1,325**  
**COMMUNITIES: 6**  
**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: OFI**

### ECUADOR

**VALLE DEL SADE FARMER GROUP;** ESMERALDAS PROVINCE, ECUADOR RAINFOREST ALLIANCE CERTIFIED  
**NUMBER OF FARMERS (F/M): 80 (14/66)**  
**APPROXIMATE HECTARES: 344**  
**COMMUNITIES: 1**  
**IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: OLAM/OFI ECUADOR**

# EMPOWERING PROSPERING FARMERS

## Quality and Value

Quality is fundamental to the sustainability of any business. Cultivate Better Cocoa works with farmers to improve the quality and value of their cocoa by focusing on best harvest and post-harvest practices that directly impact quality, flavor, value, and their ability to access premium markets and receive more for their crop. Better quality and market access lead to better prices and longer-term relationships which are the best incentives for cocoa farmers to invest in their farms.

During trainings, our partners emphasize practical training on sanitary harvesting, fermentation, and drying post-harvest, practices. Cultivate Better Cocoa's "learning by tasting" methodology allows farmers to taste samples of cocoa liquor or chocolate for the first time that are made from best practices and poor practices. As the best learning is experiential, farmers truly appreciate the differences and the importance of their work to assure quality, flavor and better prices.



Cocoa farmers in Ghana tasting for the first-time chocolate made from their cocoa



# SPOTLIGHT ON DRYING

Drying cocoa on elevated raffia mats is the traditional practice in the Ivory Coast and West Africa. Unfortunately, the cost of these mats and racks have risen and the low cost and availability of plastic tarps has led farmers to dry cocoa on the ground on mats, negatively affecting flavor and food safety. Elevated drying mats provide food safety by getting the cocoa off the ground where it is accessible to pests and provide airflow for proper drying. During trainings, we ask farmers what their clothes would smell like if they dried them on a plastic tarp on the ground rather than on a line. The fat in cocoa butter absorbs these same musty off-flavors, reducing the value of their cocoa in premium markets.

To address these issues and improve quality, flavor and value, Cultivate Better Cocoa is investing in training and working with our implementing partners and farmers to build elevated raffia mats so cocoa can dry properly and with food safety.



Typical poor drying practices in Ivory Coast



Traditional West Africa elevated raffia drying racks

Olam/ofi & Scosaci Community Service Group building raffia mats



In Agboville, in the Eastern region of the Ivory Coast, FarmStrong and SCOBAD surveyed all the of Cultivate Better Cocoa farmers and found that of the 305 farmers with 1,429 hectares of cocoa, there were 861 drying mats with only 89 mats and racks needed. These additional elevated mats will be built together with the farmers and cooperative prior to the next main season,

Building a fermentation and drying module in Valle del Sade, Ecuador



In the Sassandra region of the center-west region of the Ivory Coast, the need for elevated mats is much greater as that tradition has not been passed on well. Cultivate Better Cocoa, Olam/ofi and the Scosaci cooperative's youth-focused Community Service Groups have worked with the farmers to build 160 elevated drying mats to improve quality and value.



In Valle del Sade, Esmeraldas Province Ecuador, similar challenges exist in terms of a lack of adequate infrastructure. In the case of Ecuador, farmers lack wooden boxes for fermentation and solar drying structures that help dry cocoa in the humid, often rainy environment. Cultivate Better Cocoa works with Olam/ofi to improve quality through a similar approach with famers trained on best harvest and post-harvest practices, and through premium investments, 3 new fermentation and drying modules were built last year, adding to the four built the previous season.

## Good Agricultural Practices

Motivated by quality, value, and long-term partnerships, cocoa farmers need training and services to improve yields and further increase their incomes. Through on-farm “Farmer Field Schools” and individualized coaching, farmers are trained on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) including pruning, shade management, integrated pest management, soil health, and proper harvest and post-harvest practices.



FarmStrong Scobad training on Good Agricultural Practices in the Ivory Coast



Cultivate Better Cocoa programs have a strong focus on pruning services as a pruned tree allows more light and air into the farm significantly reducing crop losses to fungal diseases. Pruned cocoa trees are also easier to harvest, which increases yields with less pods lost on high branches. And, pruned trees respond better to soil improvements.



Cocoa trees being pruned at the Scosaci cooperative

With the Olam/Ofi and SCOSACI program, Community Service Group (CSG) pruned upon request of willing farmers, 67 farms and a total of 334 hectares, slightly lower than the targeted area of 376 hectares. The pruning service was paid by the management of the cooperative from Fair Trade premiums as an incentive to boost cocoa tree pruning. In this first year of the Scosaci program farmers were reluctant to accept the pruning and to pay for the service. Our expectation jointly with the coop, is to stimulate the interest in pruning services based on the outcomes of well-pruned farms, higher productivity of trees, and lesser diseases at farm level.

Composting is a central component to improving farmer's yields through better soil health. During the reporting period, at FarmStrong/Scobad 10 composting areas were established in the sections that served as practical training for the farmers. After these trainings with the participation of 268 farmers of the program including the 16 women, participants are now collecting agricultural wastes on their farms to make their own compost. An example of this work is the creation of a composting pile in the plot of Mr. Obodje Kama Joseph in Laoguié, pictures below.



FarmStrong - Scobad compost training

# SUCCESS STORY

At the Offinso Fine Flavor Cooperative in Ghana, organic fertilizer training was facilitated by Adu Emmanuel, a young farmer and a dedicated member of the OFFCOP Youth Group. Having undergone training on organic compost as a “Trainer of Trainers”, Adu Emmanuel has now become a certified trainer. He effectively shares his knowledge and skills with the participants during organic fertilizer trainings.



OFFCOP youth group leader, Adu Emmanuel training on compost production

## SUCCESS STORY

In Ecuador, Cultivate Better Cocoa partner Olam/ofi applies a technical approach to the renovation of older traditional “Nacional” cocoa farms by; inventorying of the farm identifying their most productive cocoa trees, identifying trees that need pruning or coppicing and grafting and where new cocoa trees are needed to reach desired density levels. Collectively, these steps, together with soil improvement and shade management, provide participating cocoa farmers the opportunity to significantly improve yields and income.



Olam/ofi team and farmers assessing unproductive trees and learning grafting techniques

## Cash Premiums

Trainings and services like pruning or shade-tree planting provide opportunities for farmers to improve yields that have the greatest impact on incomes over time. That said, no less important are premiums that help farmers meet immediate financial needs. Through the Cultivate Better Cocoa program, farmers receive important cash premiums that help them invest in their farms and support their families. The premium paid for each ton of cocoa produced depends on the underlying certification, the program, training and other services provided to farmers.

Program	Certification	Cash Premium to Farmers USD/MT
FarmStrong/ Scobad, Ivory Coast	Rainforest Alliance	\$70
Olam/Ofi, Valle del Sade, Ecuador	Rainforest Alliance	\$70
Akyemansa, Ghana	Rainforest Alliance	\$51
Offinso, Ghana	Fair Trade	\$60
Olam/Ofi Ivory Coast - SCOSACI	Fair Trade	\$53
Olam/Ofi Ivory Coast - SCOSACI	FT Min. Price Differential	\$122

Table of cash premiums to farmers for different programs

## Ghana Fine Flavor Cocoa

An innovative area for Cultivate Better Cocoa in Ghana is improving farmer incomes through the introduction of grafted “fine flavor” varieties. These are select, South American style varieties identified in the clonal gardens of the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (CRIG). Through a decade-long partnership with CRIG, local Licensed Buying Company, Transroyal, and our supplier, Tachibana we are working to provide Ghana’s farmers with better income and market opportunities through high-yielding and high-value “Ghana Fine Flavor Cocoa.”

Over the last 10 years, 64 hectares of grafted Ghana Fine Flavor cocoa have been established in Offinso in the Ashanti Region. Due to early high failure rates, many of the farms require significant re-grafting. Having been trained by CRIG, OFFCOP Field Officers provide grafting services for their members. During the reporting period, 1,745 of successful fine flavor grafts were done on 15 existing Fine Flavor farms and 6 new farms with a success rate of 70%



Ghana Fine Flavor hybrid trial plot at CRIG. From right to left, Stephen Opoku - Senior Scientist, Collins Akuoko Addo - Senior Technical Officer and Kent Boakye Agyemang - Principal Technical Assistant

The OFFCOP Field Officers have also been trained by CRIG on the proper pruning of grafted cocoa trees. During the period, a total of 18.9 hectares out of and 25.95 hectares of fine-flavor cocoa were pruned on 31 farms out of the total of 41 fine-flavor farms. This pruning is a critical step in helping these farmers achieve the production potential of these varieties. OFFCOP has also distributed and planted 6,400 cocoa seedlings on both Fine Flavor farms and traditional farms helping farmers reach the correct density of cocoa trees to support productive farms.



Ghana Fine Flavor Cocoa grafting began in Akyemansa in the Eastern Region in 2018 with approximately 28 acres now established. Having also been trained by CRIG, during the 2021/22 period, the Akyemansa Field Officers grafted 1,382 cocoa trees of which 1,254 survived representing a very good 90.7% success rate.

To support the fine flavor grafting, a bud-wood garden was established in Akyemansa during the period that covers 2 hectares with 2,000 hybrid seedlings, plantains for temporary shade and income, as well as permanent shade trees. During the current crop year, the young cocoa trees will be grafted and permanently tagged identifying each clone.



Akyemansa fine flavor farmer, George Korangten  
And our partner, Stephen Opoku of CRIG

# INSPIRING THRIVING COMMUNITIES

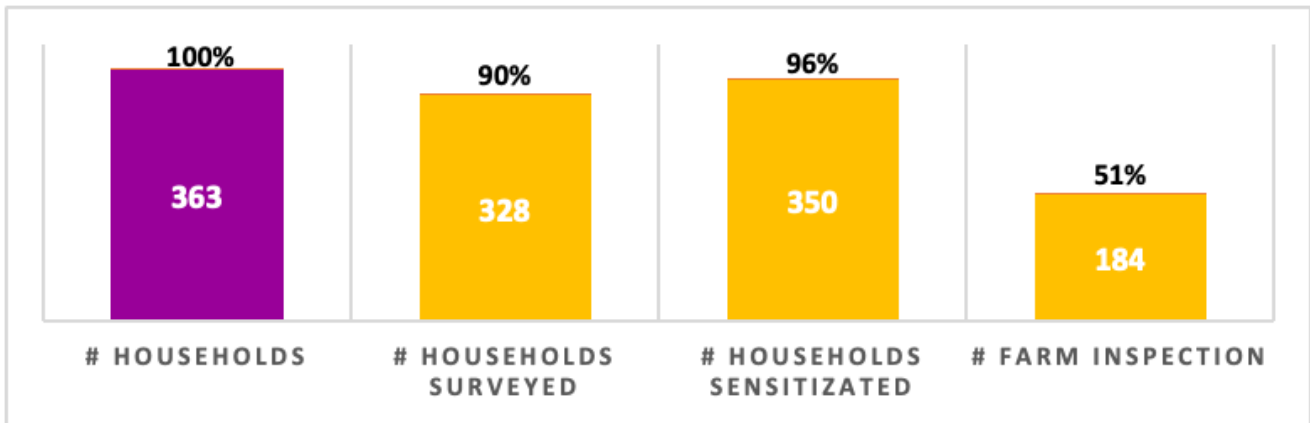
Cultivate Better Cocoa supports cocoa farmers and their communities through a focus on child protection and gender empowerment through financial inclusion and income opportunities.



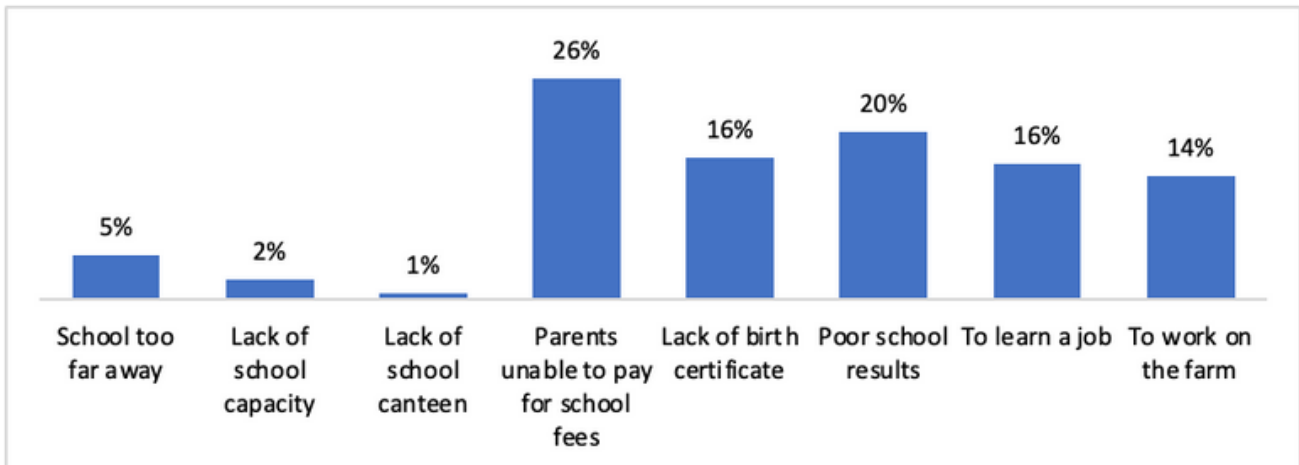
## Child Protection

In Sassandra Ivory Coast, during the season 2021/22, the Olam/ofi and SCOSACI team surveyed 90% of farmer households and inspected 51% of farms. Out of the 328 farmer households profiled, 163 children were recorded as part of the respective households. They identified a total of 4 children in a situation of child labor. From the surveys conducted, 3 children were combining work with school, and all were working for their parents. In all cases, SCOSACI is working with the households on remediation.

SUMMARY OF OFI/SCOSACI HOUSEHOLDS SURVEYED



For the children who are not attending school, Cultivate Better Cocoa partner, Olam/ofi, has researched why and found the results in the figure below:



In accordance with its development plan, SCOSACI has initiated a series of initiatives:

- In 2022, a joint process between SCOSACI and the Sub-Prefect of Lobakouya to obtain 50 birth certificates for children (14 girls and 34 boys aged 6 to 16 years old).
- 100 school benches were purchased for the pupils of the 6 primary schools of the Balokuya and Koloukro sections.
- 4 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) of 30 members each were established to help these families save and borrow as needed to meet school fees or to employ proper labor on their farms as needed.

The management of SCOSACI, together with Guittard and Olam/ofi, expressed interest in a project called “Women In Cocoa Communities” (WINCC), funded by both Global Affairs Canada and the private sector and implemented by the Canadian NGO SOCODEVI. The program's goal is to improve the living conditions of people in rural cocoa communities, especially women and girls. SCOSACI was screened by SOCODEVI and selected for the project amongst the 30 total cooperatives in the Ivory Coast. The project startup phase began in October 2022.

At FarmStrong/Scobad, during the 2021-22 reporting year, the community awareness-raising on child labor carried out by the Community Child Protection Committees (CCPC) functioned well only raising concerns in the locality of Laoguié. During the school holidays, the identification of 7 cases of children carrying heavy loads and using sharp objects prompted the members of the CCPC of Laoguié to accentuate their community awareness actions in the two districts of Dioulabougou and Odjé. These are communities where children aged between 7 and 16 are most at risk. The committee will follow up on the cases identified during the next six months (beginning of the 2022-2023 season) to carry out remediation plans and to ensure that parents are committed to no longer exposing their children to dangerous and hazardous work.

In Ghana, in the area of Child Protection, with the support of Optimal Change Partnership (OCP) and Guittard, the Offinso co-op was included in the Winrock - U.S. Department of Labor funded “MATE MASIE” program “Making Advances to Eliminate Child Labor in More Areas with Sustainable Integrated Efforts”. Working together with Ghana’s Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations, MATE MASIE will increase the number of cocoa cooperatives in Ghana demonstrating the capacity to reduce child labor in the cocoa supply chain through four outcomes: 1) Strengthened capacity of enforcement agencies to enforce child labor laws within cooperatives, 2) Strengthened capacity of cocoa cooperatives to monitor child labor, 3) Strengthened capacity of cocoa cooperatives to provide sustainable assistance and support to prevent child labor, 4) Increased access to social protection and child labor remediation programs.

According to Ecuador's human rights compliance profile, child labor represents a risk of 2.5%, which is very low compared to other cocoa origins (Source: AtSource report, based on UNICEF information). Despite the country's low risk level, Olam/ofi Ecuador established a Child Labor Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) which is based on a risk assessment of the presence of child labor and the worst forms of labor. A standard sample rate of the square root of the number of farmers per farmer group is used for a survey by an Expert Farmer Trainer, interviewing both farmers and their children. To date, no risk of child labor has been identified among the families involved in the supply chain of the Cultivate Better program. The children of the sampled farmers; go to school, have birth certificate and are not engaged in activities that put them at risk of child labor.

## Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLAs)

“VLSA’s” are a well-established system where community members come together weekly to pool small savings that build over time and make small loans to each other. The interest collected on the loans is later shared out with all members increasing savings that allow participants to meet the many needs in these low-income households.



VSLA Management Process; Offinso, Ghana

In the Ivory Coast, FarmStrong and Scobad established 10 VSLA groups in the Cultivate Better Cocoa communities with 300 members, 86% of them women. The savings and loans these groups create is always astounding with a total amount saved during the period of FCFA 8,804,200 (US\$ 14,123) and loans of FCFA 7,155,000 (US\$ 11,478) These are significant amounts that empower these women and men financially. See testimonials from Scobad VSLA members.

In Ghana, our partner OCP continued the VSLA work begun the previous season. In Offinso, OCP formed five new VSLAs bringing the total number formed in cooperative communities to nine. These VSLAs have developed their constitutions, elected their leaders, agreed to their unit share price, and social fund contribution, and have started operations. OCP also supported the existing VSLAs to enable them to start the second cycle.

In Akyemansa, together with the cooperative, OCP formed two new VSLAs in Ghaya and Subinso. Both communities now have two VSLAs. Together with the 4 established last reporting period the total VSLA's in Akyemansa is now 6. During the reporting period, 4 of the VSLAs had share-outs with continued strong participation with 98,069 Ghana Cedis (US\$ 9,569) saved that was shared back to their members per the contribution of each to help address their financial needs. With 25 members per VSLA, the 100 community members were able to save an average of \$956, a very significant amount of savings for each participant. In the words of a Malam VSLA member:

“Since I came to this community, this is the only initiative that has worked so well, bringing all of us so together! The work I do, I always see money, but I am not able to save. Now I know I have some money that I can put to good use”

# IMPACT STORY

Alex and Agnes Gyau live in Gyaha, a rural community of about a thousand inhabitants in the Akyemansa district of the Eastern region of Ghana. Gyaha is a farming community, cocoa, rice, and palm being the main cash crops produced there. Alex Gyau is a 59-year cocoa farmer, while his wife, Agnes Ayisi Gyau, is 50 years old. They have been married for 25 years, and have eleven children.



Akyemansa fine flavor farmers, Alex and Agnes Gyau

Alex is very much committed to the Gyaha community and plays important roles towards the development of the community. He is an opinion leader, a role which gives him the opportunity to support the chief of the community in development efforts. He is also an area borehole mechanic helping maintain wells. Alex is also the chairman of the funeral committee in Gyaha. Through this role he ensures that funerals, important and often large community events, are organized peacefully and in an orderly manner.

With eleven children to take care of and the financial implications that go with it, Alex and Agnes had to work extra hard to make ends meet. During their 25 years of marriage, they had established a 15-acre cocoa farm from which they harvested an average of 50 bags of cocoa annually. They also established a one and a half acre of Ghana Fine Flavor cocoa when they joined the Akyemansa Fine Flavor Cocoa Cooperative in 2018. Prior to joining the VSLA group, Alex and Agnes had challenges saving money. Agnes attempted saving money with a traditional “susu” group and ended up losing her money. Agnes runs a provision shop, however, she often had to lock the shop because she did not have money to stock it with provisions. The story changed when she joined the VSLA. At the end of the first VSLA cycle of 12 months, the group shared their money.

Agnes received 1,282 Ghana Cedis, equivalent to \$160.25. She used part for the money to stock her provisions shop and part to construct pens for local fowls she was raising. “I was so happy because that was the only time that I was not compelled to close down my shop in the course of the year for lack of funds to stock it with provisions”, says Agnes. Prior to the share-out, Alex had taken a VSLA loan of 1,000 Ghana Cedis (\$125.00) part of which he invested in the Fine Flavor farm and used the remaining to address an urgent family financial need. At share-out, he had 1,325 Cedis (\$165.63). He decided to use the money from the share-out to commence a honey production business. He has already constructed eight beehives and is working on commencing the honey production within the next few weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Gyau once again expressed gratitude to Cultivate Better Cocoa for making all these possible and encourage other farmers in Gyaha to join the Akyemansa Fine Flavor Cocoa Cooperative and the VSLA.



Agnes Gyau in her provisions store



Agnes and Alex Gyau feeding local fowl



Alex Gyau with beehive frames



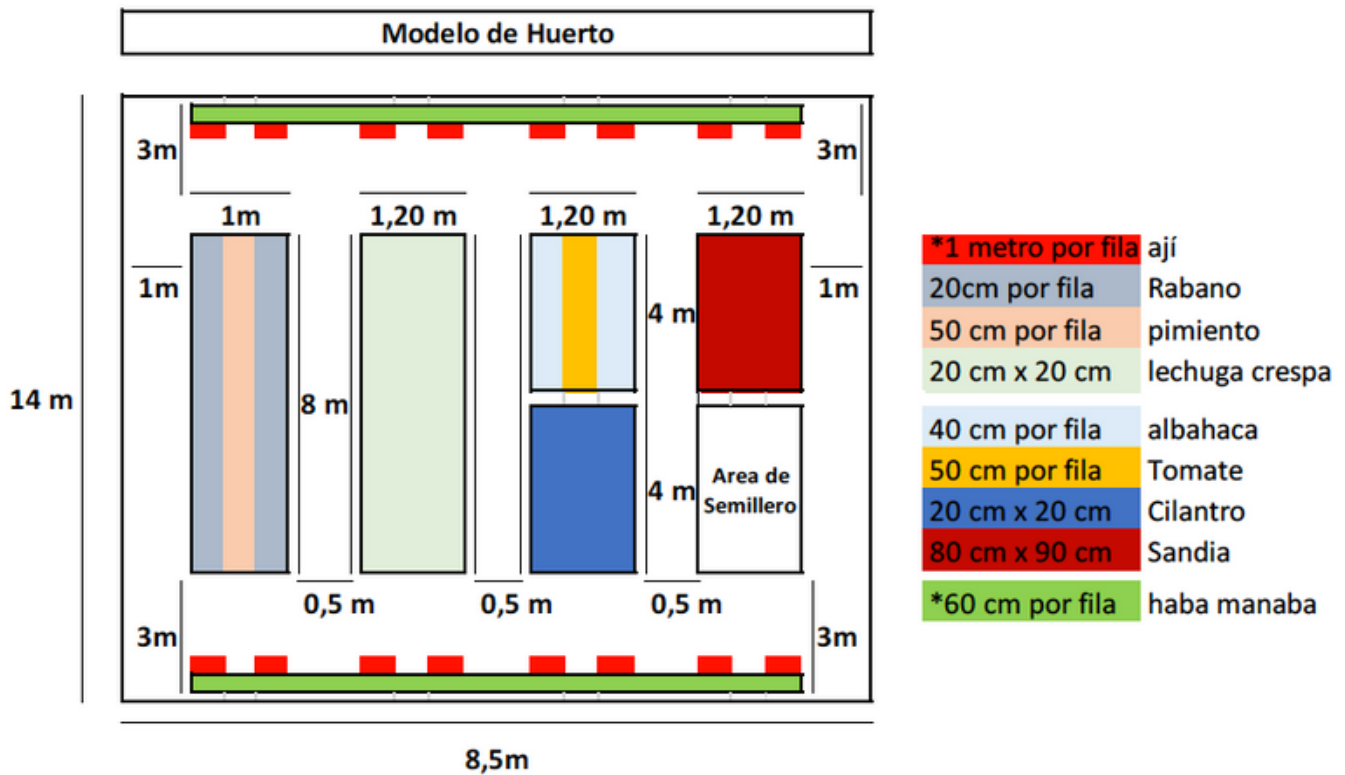
Alex Gyau on his grafted fine flavor cocoa farm



## Nutrition & Income Generating Activities

The community vegetable garden established together with a local grammar school last season in Valle del Sade, Ecuador continues to do well producing approximately 15 kg of radishes, about 5 kg of basil, 2kg of Coriander, 185 bell peppers, 251 tomatoes, 86 heads of lettuce, 7 watermelons weighing 4 kg and 162 kg of Manaba beans.

The participants of the garden are aware of the savings they have at the time of purchasing their food, representing approximately 15 to 20% of the food budget. This is a great help in the household economy. In addition to the savings the participants also consider that they are consuming healthy products free of chemical inputs.



In 2020, with Cultivate Better Cocoa support, FarmStrong/Scobad built an innovative community vegetable greenhouse run by women. After heavy winds destroyed the greenhouse in 2021 FarmStrong and Scobad successfully shifted to a traditional vegetable garden run by the same women. During 2022, this model continues to function well with financial training for the Aké-Douanier women's association and good production of fresh vegetables thanks to the compost made by the 40 women.

Crop	Quantity Produced (Kg)	Quantity sold (kg)	Quantity consumed (kg)	Unit price (FCFA)	Sales (FCFA)	Sales (USD)
Chilis	65	60	5	800	48,000	\$77
Rice	240	180	60	350	63,000	\$102
Cassava	630	510	120	80	40,800	\$66
Total	935	750	185		151,800	\$245



Photos of Aké-Douanier Women's Association vegetable production

## Other Income Generating Activities

In Ghana, at the Akyemansa Find Flavor Cooperative (AFFC), with Optimal Change Partnership (OCP) and the cooperative, Cultivate Better Cocoa was able to support two income generation pilots for women-led enterprises. In the community of Abenase six women were trained in making different types of soap for sale in the local market. To facilitate production, the cooperative advanced an amount of Ghana Cedis (GHC) 2,900 (US\$363.00) to the women as start-up support in the form of an interest-free loan, payable after one year of operation.

Upon discussion with the cooperative and the women, it was agreed that profit from the soap production would be divided into three; 60% to the six women who are directly involved in the production, 20% to the cooperative society at Abenase, with the remaining 20% going to the cooperative to support additional community investments.

Similarly, the five women in Malam were trained on how to bake butter bread, sugar bread and tea bread, as well as on how to make meat pie for sale in the local market. The cooperative advanced an amount of GHC 3,979 (US\$497.38) to the Malam women in the form of an interest-free loan payable within one year, as was done for the Abenase women. With a total budget needed of GHS 4,979,00 (\$623.00), the women were able to mobilize GHS 1,000.00 (US\$125) through their VSLA, and AFFC supported them with the difference. The women used the loan to purchase an oven as well as other utensils to enable commence production. Profit sharing is the same as was agreed with the Abenase women (60% for the women directly involved in production, 20% for the Malam Co-op society, and 20% to AFFC).



Abenase women soap making venture



Bernard Asante, AFFC secretary with Malam women during bread-baking training

# CULTIVATE BETTER COCOA & THE COCOA & FORESTS INITIATIVE

Cultivate Better Cocoa is committed in all programs to cocoa farming practices that support environmental preservation and biodiversity. Our commitments and efforts under the Cocoa & Forest Initiative are implemented through Cultivate Better Cocoa's Encouraging Environmental Preservation pillar as well as through our traceable Fair Trade program.



Through farm mapping we assure that farms we receive cocoa from are not located in protected forest or national parks. Shade tree seedlings help cocoa farmers become more resilient to climate change and training on regenerative agriculture practices like composting of farm waste helps build soil health, improve yields and improve carbon sequestration.



Diversified farm in Ucayali, Peru with fish farming, cocoa and cattle

## About the Cocoa & Forests Initiative

The governments of Ivory Coast and Ghana and 36 leading cocoa and chocolate companies, representing 85% of global cocoa usage, joined together in the Cocoa & Forests Initiative to end deforestation and restore forest areas. Their combined actions play a crucial role in protecting and restoring biodiversity, sequestering carbon stocks in West African forests, and addressing climate change in line with the Paris Climate Agreement. The Cocoa & Forests Initiative delivers on Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Action) and 15 (Life on Land).

The Cocoa & Forests Initiative is a public-private partnership based on frameworks for action (Ivory Coast and Ghana) and action plans for the private sector (Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana) and public sector (Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana) that spell out commitments to: protect and restore forests, promote sustainable cocoa production and farmers' livelihoods, engage communities and boost social inclusion.

Deforestation of tropical rainforests is a major issue in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, which together produce nearly two-thirds of the world's supply of cocoa, the main ingredient in chocolate. Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana respectively lost 26% and 9.3% of their humid primary forest between 2002 and 2020, with a significant portion of deforestation attributable to cocoa farming expansion.

Cocoa provides crucial income to communities in rural West Africa, but farmers are too often faced with poverty. Poverty is one of the causes of deforestation. Accelerating a transition to sustainable livelihoods is essential for farmers' economic security and a healthy planet. To learn more, follow #CocoaAndForests on social media, or visit [WorldCocoa.org](https://WorldCocoa.org).

## Cocoa & Forest Initiative Progress Report and Action Plan

We are pleased to share our updated Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI) Progress Report covering the 2021/22 Crop year and our updated CFI Action Plan for 2022 - 2025 that builds on the progress and learnings since the start of CFI and our first Action Plan covering 2018 – 2022. (See Appendix). "CFI 2.0" will continue to bring together the cocoa and chocolate industry and governments to support farmers, protect forests, and increase the impact of public and private efforts with donor funding to broaden the impact to landscapes and increase forest restoration.

## Encouraging Environmental Preservation

### IVORY COAST

Since Cultivate Better Cocoa's first year with the FarmStrong/Scobad partnership in 2019, all farms in the program have been polygon-mapped with yield assessments. As farmers have exited or new farmers have entered the 100% mapping has been maintained. All farms are located outside of protected areas or national parks. At the close of the reporting period, there were 305 farmers in the program with 556 plots or farms, and a total of 1,072 hectares with an estimated average production of 598 kg per hectare.

Scobad has been a pioneer in developing agroforestry with its members for over 10 years. Part of their success in this area comes from a cultural respect for the forests in this region and a tradition of planting cocoa with shade. During the 21-22 reporting period under the Cultivate Better Cocoa program, 7,000 native forest seedlings were planted. During the planting, GPS data is taken on 10% of the trees to monitor survival rates as well as growth rates (estimated height and measured diameter).

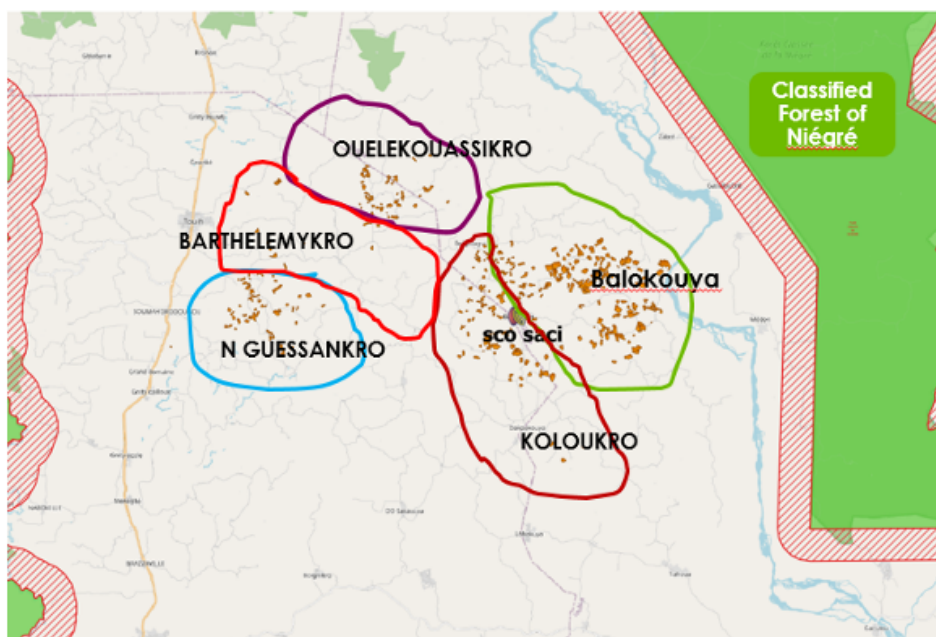
Scobad has a unique agroforestry model where they plant 100 trees per hectare, compared to 20 - 25 trees per hectare with many programs. The rainfall in this region allows for this density without competition for soil moisture and provides the farmers the opportunity to harvest up to 50% of the trees between 10 and 20 years, allowing for a true agroforestry model.

Over the last 3 years, the Cultivate Better Cocoa - FarmStrong/Scobad program has planted 20,700 trees with a good survival rate of 78% resulting in 16,146 additional trees providing shade for cocoa, climate resilience for farmers and increased biomass reducing the carbon footprint of the farming operations.

Concerned about the consequences of climate change and the impact on the biodiversity of the region, Scobad has encouraged farmers to develop dedicated reforestation areas in addition to the cocoa farms. Two individual forests were initiated this past season: one forest with Mr. Omer Bouady in Dibompo (0.5ha with 600 trees) and one by Mr. N'Guessan Dedou in Offoumpo (1ha with 1500 trees).

Beginning with this 2021-2022 season, we were able to strengthen our Fair Trade sourcing program in the Ivory Coast by developing a partnership with Olam Cocoa (ofi) and the SCOSACI (Société Coopérative Solidarité Agricole. C.I.), a cooperative created in January 2014 and based in Balokouya, in the Sassandra region 87 km Northeast from San Pedro. SCOSACI was certified Fair Trade by FLO-Cert in 2016 and then authorized in January 2022, to trade its cocoa beans under the FT USA label and standards.

Prior to the 2021/2022 reporting year, all farms in the program were polygon mapped and are outside any protected forest or national park. At the close of the reporting period 363 farmers (21 women) participated to the program with 386 farms.



SCOSACI farm and co-op section locations

With Fair Trade premiums, the SCOSACI cooperative purchased 5,000 shade tree seedlings for its farmers. 4,968 trees were received by 179 farmers and recorded. Three native species were distributed: Bitei, Fraké, Makoré. With an average of 20 shade trees per hectare, 248 hectares of cocoa farms were brought under agroforestry in 2021/22. The 179 beneficiary farmers were trained on agroforestry by the agronomist at SCOSACI level from March to end of September 2022 with a focus on tree planting techniques and maintenance.



Shade tree planting at SCOSACI

## GHANA

During the reporting period the Offinso Fine Flavor Cooperative polygon mapped all 54 grafted Ghana Fine Flavor farms and 329 farms of 702 registered farmers (46.8%). All farms are located outside of protected areas or national parks. Offinso has since paired down its farmer registry to 540 active, committed farmers that are selling their cocoa through the co-op with membership fee and dues up to date. That brings the farms mapped to approximately 61% with a 75% target for September 30th, 2023.

In the area of Forest Protection, the Offinso Co-op trained farmers on the best ways to promote biodiversity such as natural regeneration and dynamic agroforestry. This is particularly important for Offinso as it is considered a “transition zone” in the northern part of the Ashanti region. The co-op followed up the trainings by raising and distributing 3,380 seedlings of Mahogany and Ofram to 491 cocoa farmers (196 females and 295 males) to integrate them into their production landscape as shade trees to buffer cocoa trees from rising temperatures and droughts. Also, 27 farmers (22 males and 5 females) received economic fruit tree seedlings (coconut, orange, pear, and mango) 16 seedlings per each farmer to be integrated in their cocoa farms that can be harvested alongside their cocoa.

At the Akyemansa Fine Flavor Farmers' Cooperative, at the close of this reporting period, 247 farms were polygon mapped of a total of 329 farms (75%), all farms are located outside of protected areas or national parks.

A total of nine hundred (900) economic shade trees were received, distributed, and planted on and off cocoa farms. An additional two thousand and four hundred (2,400) different species of multipurpose trees; oil palm trees, coconut, mango, etc. were planted across different cocoa farms.



Grafted fine flavor cocoa in an agroforestry system



## Improved Cook Stoves

In West Africa, including Ivory Coast and Ghana, almost all cooking is done in villages with the use of firewood or rurally made charcoal, a major source of deforestation in rural areas as well as a pollutant and health risk. The Cultivate Better - FarmStrong program in Agboville, Ivory Coast piloted the distribution of improved "Tika" cooking stoves to communities. 50 Tika cookstoves were provided to families in the 5 communities and a comparative analysis was conducted over a 2-month period with the traditional use of three stones and an open fire.

By using an improved stove, the amount charcoal used for cooking was reduced by 83%, allowing these households to prepare more dishes with the same amount of fuel. In economic terms, the monthly average savings in fuel was \$5.05, a significant amount for these households. Equally important is the amount of time saved either travelling to buy charcoal or collecting firewood, time women dedicate to their children and families.

There are also important health benefits from the reduced smoke from the Tika stoves as well as a reduced carbon footprint from charcoal production and burning or firewood collection and burning.



Scobad women farmers and Tika cookstoves



Typical "3 Stone" fire and the Tika cookstove

## Cultivate Better Cocoa - FarmStrong Scobad Farmer Testimonials Agboville, Ivory Coast

### TESTIMONY OF A VSLA MEMBER OF ORESS-KROUBOU

“My name is Koné Rokia, I am a member of the group Binkadi of Oress- Kroubou (Agboville). I was able to start my business of Gnommi (small doughnuts) thanks to the savings that I obtained by sharing the funds of the group on a year of contribution of the VSLA cycle. I am proud and happy to be part of this VSLA group because it allowed me to become an autonomous woman. Thanks to the income from my business, I can take care of myself and my children.”

### TESTIMONY OF A VSLA MEMBER OF ORESS-KROUBOU

“My name is Adjé Yaba Cathérine, treasurer of the Bokamin group of Oress- Kroubou 1. Thanks to the VSLA I was able to save money to buy a freezer to sell fresh fish and to open a drinks shop. These activities allowed me to have a permanent job for the first time and to take care of my family. I advise other women to join the VSLAs because this activity is advantageous for women who want to start a business and become more independent.”

## Cultivate Better Cocoa - FarmStrong Scobad Farmer Testimonials

### TESTIMONY OF A VSLA MEMBER OF LOVIGUIÉ

*“My name is Chowo Ovo Jacqueline, member of the Loviguie’s group. Before, I didn't know what a VSLA was, when I earned money, I didn't really know how to manage it. Since I joined the VSLA and after the trainings I received, I understand better how to save and manage my earnings. At the end of the VSLA contribution cycle, we share the funds we have saved. I invested to create a corn and peanut field. I am very happy to belong to the VSLA group because the VSLA has shown me that saving money allows me to start an activity that I want.”*

### TESTIMONY OF A MEMBER OF THE VEGETABLE GREENHOUSE

*“My name is Ekissi Nathalie, I am a member of the Binkadi Cooperative group of Ake Douanier, member of the vegetable greenhouse group. In addition to the vegetable greenhouse, we decided to start other crops around the greenhouse such as ½ ha of corn field, ½ ha of rice and ½ ha of cassava to increase our revenues. At the end of the cycle, we harvested 700 kg of corn and 420 kg of rice. The cassava field was destroyed by animals. After selling of the vegetable production of the greenhouse, we earned 321,000 FCFA (US\$ 545). The expenses were almost 150,000 FCFA (US\$255) so we were able to save 171,000 FCFA (US\$290) net which was reinvested in the production of corn, rice and cassava. This time we make sure the cassava field will not be destroyed by animals.”*

## CLOSING REMARKS

Through Cultivate Better Cocoa and the support of our cooperatives, suppliers, implementing partners, farmers, and community leaders, we have seen the positive impact that we can have together. Through programs with local governments, like the Cocoa & Forests Initiative, we have seen that collaboration and co-investment can drive the structural change needed for long-term success.

We are encouraged by the interest from farmers in the Ivory Coast and Ghana to plant shade trees and build agroforestry systems. Farmers increasingly understand the risks and impacts of climate change and the importance of forests and biodiversity to their local ecosystems. We are also encouraged by our cooperatives and implementing partners ability to build shade tree nurseries produce indigenous species. These nurseries are often women led and create rural jobs and incomes.

We are encouraged by farmer's willingness to adopt new techniques and invest in improve incomes from cocoa as well as non-cocoa crops. Cooperatives and Service Providers are developing the capabilities to deliver services so farmers can improve yields and incomes (such as pruning, composting and shade tree planting) with well-equipped trained labor and the small and short term financing that is needed. The skilled labor, access to finance and improved yields and incomes all help to keep children in schools, learning and having the childhood they deserve.

We are encouraged by the communities and the impact of women focused Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) where the ability to save as well as borrow small funds can help address emergency needs as well as build the access to finance to launch or support micro-businesses that complement incomes from cocoa and help pave the way towards Living Incomes for cocoa farmers and their families.

These initial successes and learnings have helped us focus and align activities and partnerships. We look forward to the next phase of Cultivate Better / Cultivate Better Cocoa where, together with our customers and consumers we can build sustainable, impactful supply chains and collaborative programs that contribute to a positive future for cocoa farmers, their communities, and the environment.

# Appendix

## CASH PREMIUMS

PROGRAM	CERTIFICATON	CASH PREMIUM TO FARMERS IN USD/MT
<b>FARMSTRONG/ SCOBAD</b>	Rainforest Alliance	\$70
<b>OLAM/OFI ECUADOR, VALLE DEL SADE</b>	Rainforest Alliance	\$70
<b>AKYEMANSA GHANA</b>	Rainforest Alliance	\$51
<b>OFFINSO GHANA</b>	Fair Trade	\$60
<b>OLAM/OFI IVORY COAST - SCOSACI</b>	Fair Trade	\$52.80
<b>OLAM/OFI IVORY COAST - SCOSACI</b>	FT Min. Price Differential	\$122

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR	% CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR
<b>CONTINENTS</b>	2	2	2	0	0%
<b>COUNTRIES</b>	3	3	3	0	0%
<b>COOPERARTIVES OR FARMER GROUPS</b>	4	4	5	1	0%
<b>COMMUNITIES</b>	26	30	32	2	0%
<b>FARMERS</b>	865	1,107	1,727	620	56%
<b>FEMALE</b>	335	512	663	151	29%
<b>MALE</b>	583	654	671	17	3%
<b>FARMS</b>	606	1,012	1,933	921	91%
<b>HECTARES</b>	1,578	2,287	3,484	1,197	52%

## Ivory Coast

<b>Scoopsbad, Agobiville, Agnébi Province (CBC Partner)</b>	<b>2019/202</b>	<b>2020/202</b>	<b>2021-</b>
Certification	0 Utz	1 Utz	22 RA
Com m uni ti es	4	6	6
F a r m e r s	194	210	305
Female	4	8	16
Male	190	202	289
% Female	2%	4%	5%
Farms	221	234	556
Farms Polygon Mapped	221	234	556
Total hectares	543	760	1702
Average hectares per farm	2.46	3.25	3.06
Farms mapped	221	234	556
% Farms Mapped	100%	100%	100%
Farmers receiving agronomic & quality training	194	210	305
Farmers receiving environmental training	194	210	289
Shade trees planted	7,000	5,050	7,000
Communities with Child Protection	4	6	6
Committees Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLAs)	0	0	10

<b>SCOSACI, Sassandra, Soubre Province (Fair Trade Co- op)</b>			<b>2021- 22</b>
Certification			Fair Trade
Com m uni ti es			4
F a r m e r s			363
Female			40
Male			323
% Female			11%
Farms			386
Farms Polygon Mapped			386
Total hectares			543
Average hectares per farm			1.41
Farms mapped			386
% Farms Mapped			100%
Farmers receiving agronomic & quality training			218
Farmers receiving environmental training			218
Shade trees planted			5000
Communities with Child Protection Committees			5
Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLAs)			4

## Ecuador

Valle del Sade], Esmeraldas Province (CBC Partner)	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021- 22
Certification	Utz	Utz	RA
Com m uni ti es	1	1	1
F a rm ers	80	80	80
Female	14	14	14
Male	66	66	66
% Female	18%	18%	18%
Farms	80	80	80
Farms Polygon Mapped	80	80	80
Total hectares	344	344	344
Average hectares per farm	4.30	4.30	4.30
Farms mapped	80	80	80
% Farms Mapped	100%	100%	100%
Farmers receiving agronomic & quality training	80	80	80
Farmers receiving environmental training	80	80	80
Shade trees planted	0	0	0
Communities with CLMRS	1	1	1
Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLAs)	0	0	0



## Cultivate Better Cocoa Program Metrics Summary

PROGRAM METRIC	IVORY COAST		GHANA	ECUADOR
	2019/2020	2021-2022	2021-2022	2021-2022
<b>FARMS POLYGON MAPPED (TOTAL)</b>	1,498	942	476	80
<b>FARMERS RECEIVING AGRONOMIC &amp; QUALITY TRAINING</b>	1,727	668	979	80
<b>FARMERS RECEIVING ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING</b>	1,727	668	979	80
<b>SHADE TREES DISTRIBUTED</b>	16,712	12,000	4,712	0
<b>COMMUNITIES WITH CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEES OR CLMRS</b>	21	11	9	1
<b>VILLAGE SAVINGS &amp; LOAN ASSOCIATIONS (VSLAS)</b>	30	14	16	0
<b>TOTAL SHADE TREES DISTRIBUTED</b>	33,424			

# CFI ANNUAL DATA REPORT -IVORY COAST



Prosperous Farmers

Empowered Communities

Healthy Planet

Cross-Cutting Results

Cocoa & Forests Initiative

< Back to home page

## Cocoa & Forests Initiative - Annual Data Report

Country

Côte d'Ivoire

Aggregation

Individual Company View

Company

All

Year

2022

Indicator	2022 Target	# Through direct investment (Current reporting year)	# On behalf of clients (Current reporting year)	# Through direct investment (Since 2018)
<b>FOREST PROTECTION AND RESTORATION</b>				
# of cocoa plots mapped in direct supply chain		931		
# of farms mapped in direct supply chain		628		
# of hectares in the direct supply chain with deforestation risk assessments completed		2,398		
# metric tons of directly sourced cocoa traceable from the farm to the first purchase point (target is 100%)		1,179		
# hectares restored in Forest Reserve / Forêts Classée		0		0
# trees registered		2,682		2,682
# of farmers with land tenure agreements/documentation obtained via company support				
# farmers informed, trained, and / or consulted on the new Forest Code, law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration		586		
# individuals receiving PES: New		0		0
# individuals receiving PES: Total Active		0		0
# farmers applying agroforestry		249		
# multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm planting		12,000		17,050
# hectares cocoa agroforestry in development		318		369
# of trees distributed for off-farm planting		0		0
# hectares of forest area restored off-reserve / in rural zone		0		0
# farmers trained in CSC best practices		351		
# of farmers trained in Modified Taungya System (MTS)				
\$ contributed to fund		0		0
<b>SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION AND FARMERS' LIVELIHOOD</b>				

# CFI ACTION PLAN IVORY COAST

## CFI Company Action Plan for Côte d'Ivoire (Brands)

Commitment	Actions	Indicator	Indicator notes	# through direct investment (Oct 2022-Sept 2023)	# through direct investment (Oct 2023-Sept 2024)	# through direct investment (Oct 2024-Sept 2025)	TOTAL # through direct investment (Oct 2022-Sept 2025)
<b>Forest Protection and Restoration</b>							
1. No further conversion of any forest land (as defined under national regulations, and using HCS and HCV methodologies) for cocoa production.	1.1 Conduct farm mapping within direct supply chain to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest lands, National Parks and Reserves, and Classified Forests	# and % of farms mapped in direct supply chain (HP-IND-03)	Removed: # of cocoa plots mapped in direct supply chain	742 (100%)	742 (100%)	819.2 (100%)	
	1.2 Conduct deforestation risk assessments in all direct sourcing areas	# of hectares in the direct supply chain with deforestation risk assessments completed (HP-02)		1,455	1,455	1,536	
2. No sourcing of cocoa from National Parks and 2.1 Reserves through companies' traceable direct sourcing programs. Reserves (all forest areas)	2.1 Implement traceability tools/technology to ensure no cocoa purchases originate from National Parks or Reserves (all forest areas)	% of directly sourced cocoa traceable from the farm to the first purchase point (HP-IND-02)		100% / 1,050MT	100% / 1,050MT	100% / 1,050MT	100% / 1,050MT
3. A differentiated approach based on the level of 3.1 degradation of forests for classified Forests will be developed and translated into a national forest restoration strategy/agroforestry as a restoration and livelihoods intervention	3.1 Support the restoration of Classified Forests by working with cocoa farmers, the government and the forestry industry to implement contracts for mixed agroforestry	# hectares restored in Classified Forests (HP-07)		0	0	0	0
	4.1 Support farmers with tree registration	# trees registered		0	0	0	0
4. Legal protection and management status for the remaining forests of Côte d'Ivoire in the Rural Domain	4.2 Support cocoa farmers to acquire land (tenure) documentation	# and % of farmers with land tenure agreements/documentation etc. obtained via company support (PF-07)		0	0	0	0
	5.1 Promote and participate in awareness-raising campaigns to educate farmers on the new Forest Code	# farmers informed, trained, and / or consulted on the new Forest Code, law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration (HP-11)		691	691	829	
6. Public-private collaboration to mobilize resources for forest protection and restoration	6.1 Mobilize finance for forest protection and restoration	# Individuals receiving PES: New (HP-05)	To be changed to: Individuals receiving incentives to protect and restore the environment (e.g., PES): New	0	0	0	0
		# Individuals receiving PES: Total Active (HP-05)	To be changed to: Individuals receiving incentives to protect and restore the environment (e.g., PES): Total Active	0	0	0	0
7. Public-private collaboration to identify good practices, technical guidance and incentive mechanisms for forest restoration and agro-forestry	7.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	# farmers applying agroforestry in development (HP-06)	To be changed to: Households provided with technical assistance and support based on plans to adopt agroforestry	274	301	331	
		# multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm planting (HP-10)		12,000	12,000	14,400	38,400
		# hectares cocoa agroforestry in development (HP-IND-04)		350	385	423	1,536
	7.2 Support distribution and planting of native trees for off-farm restoration (reforestation)	# # of trees distributed for off-farm planting (HP-09)		600	600	600	1,800
		# ha of forest area restored in rural zone (HP-07)		0	0	0	0
7.3 Train farmers in CSC production including cocoa agroforestry systems	# farmers trained in CSC best practices (HP-08)	To be changed to: Households provided with technical assistance and support based on plans to reduce and remove carbon emissions on farm (CSC)		691	691	829	
8. Government creation, in collaboration with all stakeholders of a public-private fund to support financing of protection and restoration of HCV forest areas.	8.1 Support the creation of the government led public-private fund	\$ contributed to fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
		\$ Contribution for Pillar		30,166	30,166	36,199	96,531
<b>Sustainable Production and Farmers' Livelihoods</b>							
9.1 Distribute improved cocoa planting material		# improved seedlings distributed to farmers (PF-IND-02)		0	0	0	0
P. Promote investment in long-term productivity of cocoa							

# CFI ACTION PLAN IVORY COAST CONT

in environmentally suitable areas in order to grow "more cocoa on less land"	9.3 Train farmers in Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs)	# of farmers reached by GAP training programs (PF-IND-01)	To be changed to: Individuals provided with regular technical assistance and support based on needs to professionalize & optimize productivity	691	691	829	
10. Promote sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers	10.1 Promote farm-level crop diversification	# individuals participating in additional Income Generating Activities (IGAs) (PF-IND-03)	To be changed to: Individuals provided with regular technical assistance and support based on needs to increase income from non-cocoa sources / IGAs	691	691	829	
	10.2 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	# multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm reforestation # hectares of cocoa agroforestry in development					Already reported 7.1
11. Promote financial inclusion and innovation to deepen farmers' access to working capital and investment funds for production and farm renovation	11.1 Offer financial products to farmers and promote farmer savings	# and % individuals in the current reporting year enrolled in To be changed to: Individuals provided with regular technical assistance and support based on needs to save money and access finance (e.g., VSLA) # of members of VSLA groups in the current year # of VSLA groups in the current year	To be changed to: Individuals provided with regular technical assistance and support based on needs to save money and access finance (e.g., VSLA)	405 405 18	601 601 23	740 740 25	
12. Improve supply chain mapping, with the goal of 100% of cocoa sourcing traceable from farm to first purchase point. An action plan will be developed for traceability, which will be implemented step-by-step to achieve full traceability and verification, applicable to all by end-2024	12.1 Conduct farm mapping within direct supply chain to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest lands, National Parks and Reserves, and Classified Forests 12.2 Implement traceability system to farm level in direct supply chain	# and % of farms mapped in direct supply chain # of direct sourced cocoa traceable from individual farms to first purchase point					Already reported 1.1 Already reported 2.1
		\$ Contribution for Pillar		\$70,094	\$70,094	\$75,424	\$215,619
Social Inclusion and Community Engagement							
13. Full and effective information sharing, consultation, and informed participation of cocoa farmers and their communities who are affected by proposed land-use changes.	13.1 Organize cocoa community consultations on the implementation of the Frameworks for Action	# farmers informed, trained, and / or consulted on the new Forest Code, law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration					Already reported 5.1
14. Promote community-based management models for forest protection and restoration	14.1 Establish and/or support community-based natural resource management programs for forest restoration	# of cocoa communities with active forest restoration and protection program (HP-03) # hectares under CBNRM (HP-04)		0 0	TBD 0	TBD TBD	TBD TBD
15. Development of action plans for forest protection and restoration, and sustainable agricultural intensification that are gender and youth sensitive.	15.1 Develop forest protection & restoration and agriculture intensification action plans that are gender and youth sensitive	# of individuals participating in women's empowerment projects and activities (EC-08) # of individuals participating in youth focused projects and activities (age 15-35) (EC-07)		64 64	64 64	77 64	

# CFI ANNUAL DATA REPORT -GHANA



Prosperous Farmers

Empowered Communities

Healthy Planet

Cross-Cutting Results

Cocoa & Forests Initiative

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## Cocoa & Forests Initiative - Annual Data Report

Country  
Ghana

Aggregation  
Individual Company View

Company  
All

Year  
2022

Indicator	2022 Target	# Through direct investment (Current reporting year)	# On behalf of clients (Current reporting year)	# Through direct investment (Since 2018)
<b>FOREST PROTECTION AND RESTORATION</b>				
# of cocoa plots mapped in direct supply chain		472		
# of farms mapped in direct supply chain	1,200	472		
# of hectares in the direct supply chain with deforestation risk assessments completed	2,400	0		
# metric tons of directly sourced cocoa traceable from the farm to the first purchase point (target is 100%)		400		
# hectares restored in Forest Reserve / Forêts Classée		0		0
# trees registered		0		0
# of farmers with land tenure agreements/documentation obtained via company support		0		0
# farmers informed, trained, and / or consulted on the new Forest Code, law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration #	1,200	979		
individuals receiving PES: New		0		0
# individuals receiving PES: Total Active		0		
# farmers applying agroforestry		64		
# multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm planting	5,000	4,712		12,625
# hectares cocoa agroforestry in development		505		806
# of trees distributed for off-farm planting		0		340
# hectares of forest area restored off-reserve / in rural zone		0		0
# farmers trained in CSC best practices	1,200	979		
# of farmers trained in Modified Taungya System (MTS)	1,200	0		
\$ contributed to fund				
<b>SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION AND FARMERS' LIVELIHOOD</b>				

# CFI ACTION PLAN GHANA

## CFI Company Action Plan for Côte d'Ivoire (Brands)

Commitment	Actions	Indicator	Indicator notes	# through direct investment (Oct 2022-Sept 2023)	# through direct investment (Oct 2023-Sept 2024)	# through direct investment (Oct 2024-Sept 2025)	TOTAL # through direct investment (Oct 2022-Sept 2025)
<b>Forest Protection and Restoration</b>							
1. No further conversion of any forest land (as defined under national regulations, and using HCS and HCV methodologies) for cocoa production.	1.1 Conduct farm mapping within direct supply chain to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest lands, National Parks and Reserves, and Classified Forests	# and % of farms mapped in direct supply chain (HP-IND-03)	Removed: # of cocoa plots mapped in direct supply chain	742 (100%)	742 (100%)	819.2 (100%)	
	1.2 Conduct deforestation risk assessments in all direct sourcing areas	# of hectares in the direct supply chain with deforestation risk assessments completed (HP-02)		1,455	1,455	1,536	
2. No sourcing of cocoa from National Parks and Reserves through companies' traceable direct sourcing programs. Reserves (all forest areas)	2.1 Implement traceability tools/technology to ensure no cocoa purchases originate from National Parks or Reserves (all forest areas)	% of directly sourced cocoa traceable from the farm to the first purchase point (HP-IND-02)		100% / 1,050MT	100% / 1,050MT	100% / 1,050MT	100% / 1,050MT
3. A differentiated approach based on the level of 3.1 degradation of forests for classified Forests will be developed and translated into a national forest restoration strategy/agroforestry as a restoration and livelihoods intervention	3.1 Support the restoration of Classified Forests by working with cocoa farmers, the government and the forestry industry to implement contracts for mixed intervention	# hectares restored in Classified Forests (HP-07)		0	0	0	0
	4.1 Support farmers with tree registration	# trees registered		0	0	0	0
4. Legal protection and management status for the remaining forests of Côte d'Ivoire in the Rural Domain	4.2 Support cocoa farmers to acquire land (tenure) documentation	# and % of farmers with land tenure agreements/documentation etc. obtained via company support (PF-07)		0	0	0	0
	5.1 Promote and participate in awareness-raising campaigns to educate farmers on the new Forest Code	# farmers informed, trained, and / or consulted on the new Forest Code, law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration (HP-11)		691	691	829	
6. Public-private collaboration to mobilize resources for forest protection and restoration	6.1 Mobilize finance for forest protection and restoration	# Individuals receiving PES: New (HP-05)	To be changed to: Individuals receiving incentives to protect and restore the environment (e.g., PES): New	0	0	0	0
		# Individuals receiving PES: Total Active (HP-05)	To be changed to: Individuals receiving incentives to protect and restore the environment (e.g., PES): Total Active	0	0	0	0
7. Public-private collaboration to identify good practices, technical guidance and incentive mechanisms for forest restoration and agro-forestry	7.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	# farmers applying agroforestry in development (HP-06)	To be changed to: Households provided with technical assistance and support based on plans to adopt agroforestry	274	301	331	
		# multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm planting (HP-10)		12,000	12,000	14,400	38,400
		# hectares cocoa agroforestry in development (HP-IND-04)		350	385	423	1,536
	7.2 Support distribution and planting of native trees for off-farm restoration (reforestation)	# # of trees distributed for off-farm planting (HP-09)		600	600	600	1,800
	# ha of forest area restored in rural zone (HP-07)		0	0	0	0	
	7.3 Train farmers in CSC production including cocoa agroforestry systems	# farmers trained in CSC best practices (HP-08)	To be changed to: Households provided with technical assistance and support based on plans to reduce and remove carbon emissions on farm (CSC)	691	691	829	
8. Government creation, in collaboration with all stakeholders of a public-private fund to support financing of protection and restoration of HCV forest areas.	8.1 Support the creation of the government led public-private fund	\$ contributed to fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
		\$ Contribution for Pillar		30,166	30,166	36,199	96,531
<b>Sustainable Production and Farmers' Livelihoods</b>							
9.1 Distribute improved cocoa planting material		# improved seedlings distributed to farmers (PF-IND-02)		0	0	0	0
P. Promote investment in long-term productivity of cocoa							

# CFI ACTION PLAN

## GHANA CONT.

in environmentally suitable areas in order to grow more cocoa on less land"	9.3 Train farmers in Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs)	# of farmers reached by GAP training programs (PF-IND-01)	To be changed to: Individuals provided with regular technical assistance and support based on needs to professionalize & optimize productivity	691	691	829	
10. Promote sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers	10.1 Promote farm-level crop diversification	# individuals participating in additional Income Generating Activities (IGAs) (PF-IND-03)	To be changed to: Individuals provided with regular technical assistance and support based on needs to increase income from non-cocoa sources / IGAs	691	691	829	
	10.2 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	# multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm reforestation # hectares of cocoa agroforestry in development					Already reported 7.1
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12. Improve supply chain mapping, with the goal of 100% of cocoa sourcing traceable from farm to first purchase point. An action plan will be developed for traceability, which will be implemented step-by-step to achieve full traceability and verification, applicable to all by end-2023	12.1 Conduct farm mapping within direct supply chain to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest lands, National Parks and Reserves, and Classified Forests	# and % of farms mapped in direct supply chain		18	23	25	Already reported 1.1
	12.2 Implement traceability system to farm level in direct supply chain	# of direct sourced cocoa traceable from individual farms to first purchase point \$ Contribution for Pillar		\$70,094	\$70,094	\$75,424	Already reported 2.1 \$215,619
Social Inclusion and Community Engagement							
13. Full and effective information sharing, consultation, and informed participation of cocoa farmers and their communities who are affected by proposed land-use changes.	13.1 Organize cocoa community consultations on the implementation of the Frameworks for Action	# farmers informed, trained, and / or consulted on the new Forest Code, law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration					Already reported 5.1
14. Promote community-based management models for forest protection and restoration	14.1 Establish and/or support community-based natural resource management programs for forest restoration	# of cocoa communities with active forest restoration and protection program (HP-03) # hectares under CBNRM (HP-04)		0 0	TBD 0	TBD TBD	TBD TBD
15. Development of action plans for forest protection and restoration, and sustainable agricultural intensification that are gender and youth sensitive.	15.1 Develop forest protection & restoration and agriculture intensification action plans that are gender and youth sensitive	# of individuals participating in women's empowerment projects and activities (EC-08) # of individuals participating in youth focused projects and activities (age 15-35) (EC-07)		64 64	64 64	77 64	