



**Cocoa &  
Forests  
Initiative**



# **CFI Action Plan**

**March 2019**

## I. **BOLD PUBLIC-PRIVATE ACTION: THE COCOA & FORESTS INITIATIVE**

The governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana and the world's leading cocoa and chocolate companies [signed landmark agreements](#) in November 2017 to end deforestation and promote forest restoration and protection in the cocoa supply chain.

This new public-private partnership – called the [Cocoa & Forests Initiative \(CFI\)](#) – has been organized by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), IDH - the Sustainable Trade Initiative, and The Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit (ISU). The Prince of Wales [launched CFI](#) in March 2017 in London.



The Frameworks for Action for [Côte d'Ivoire](#) and [Ghana](#) define core commitments, verifiable actions, and timebound targets required for a deforestation-free and forest-positive supply chain.

The Governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana play a critical leadership role in establishing the national strategy, enabling policy environment, and governance structure for CFI implementation. They ensure that CFI is linked to similar initiatives with other commodities, and fully aligned with the national REDD+ Strategy and other relevant national strategies and plans. They provide key operational guidance, and baseline

economic, environmental, and social data, to help companies identify and plan the most effective and efficient private investment activities for CFI.

The Governments have prepared comprehensive national implementation plans ([Côte d'Ivoire](#), [Ghana](#)) that outline key public sector priorities, actions and timelines, following extensive consultation with all stakeholders. During the first year of CFI, the Governments have launched work on the key building blocks for successful CFI implementation, including important revisions to the legal framework for sustainable forest management, preparation of up-to-date boundary maps of protected areas, and collection of socio-economic and land use data for the priority investment areas.

Thirty-three companies<sup>1</sup>, accounting for about 85% of global cocoa usage, have now joined CFI. Each company has agreed to prepare a detailed individual action plan that spells out the specific actions it will take in 2018-2022 to deliver the commitments set out in the Framework. Each company will decide for itself how to best support the achievement of the Framework objectives, based on their role in the supply chain, their corporate strategic priorities, and their cocoa sustainability goals.

Almost all companies have now completed initial action plans. These initial plans will be updated and finalized in 2019 after the governments have completed the ongoing legal and operational policy changes, the mapping of protected areas, baseline data collection, and other building blocks needed for full investment programming.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Arysta Callivoire, Barry Callebaut, Blommer Chocolate Company, Mondelez International, Nestlé, Olam Cocoa, PBC Cargill Cocoa and Chocolate, Cémoi, Chocolats Halba, Cocoanect, Limited, Sainsbury's, SIAT, Tesco, Toms Group, Touton, Cococo Chocolatiers, ECOM Group, Fazer, Ferrero, General Mills Inc., Godiva Chocolatier Inc., Guittard Chocolate Company, The Hershey Company, Indcresa, Lindt & Sprüngli Group, Marks & Spencer Food, Mars Wrigley Confectionery, Meiji Co. Ltd., Tree Global, Unilever, Valrhona, and J.H. Whittaker & Sons

<sup>2</sup> The actions pending further information are marked "to be determined" in the initial company action plans

CFI has been supported by several global development partners, including the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the Global Environment Facility, and the Green Commodities Program of the United Nations Development Program.

CFI is coordinated closely with a wide range of global and local environmental organizations and partnerships, including the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020, Amsterdam Declaration Partnership, Partnerships for Forests, the Rainforest Alliance, and World Resources Institute.

#### **I. WHAT ARE THE KEY COMMITMENTS IN CFI?**

The Frameworks are structured around three critical themes of (1) forest protection and restoration, (2) sustainable production and farmers' livelihoods, and (3) community engagement and social inclusion.

**The first priority is the protection and restoration of forests that have been degraded.** To this end, the governments and companies have pledged no further conversion of forest land for cocoa production, and have committed to the phased elimination of illegal cocoa production and sourcing in protected areas.

Both countries are introducing a differentiated approach for improved management of forest reserves, based on the level of degradation of forests. Up-to-date maps on forest cover and land-use, socio-economic data on cocoa farmers, and detailed operational guidelines covering forest management and land-use are being developed and will be publicly disclosed.

To ensure effective implementation and monitoring of these commitments, companies have pledged to develop verifiable monitoring systems for traceability from farm to the first purchase point for their own purchases of cocoa, and to work with governments to

ensure an effective national framework for traceability encompassing all traders in the supply chain.

**The next critical priority is sustainable agricultural production and increased farmer incomes.** These are essential pre-requisites for reducing pressure for agricultural encroachment into forests and strengthening the resilience of cocoa farmers to climate change.

The governments and companies have agreed to accelerate investment in long-term productivity of cocoa in order to grow "more cocoa on less land." Key actions include: provision of improved planting materials, training in good agricultural practices, soil fertility, land tenure reform, and capacity building of farmers' organizations. Sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers will be accelerated through food crop diversification, agricultural inter-cropping, and development of mixed agro-forestry systems and shade-grown cocoa.

**The final area of focus is strong community engagement and social inclusion, with a particular focus on women and youth.** The governments and companies have committed to full and effective consultation and participation of cocoa farmers in the design and implementation of key actions, and promotion of community-based management models for forest protection and restoration. The governments will assess and mitigate the social impacts and risks of any proposed land-use changes on affected communities.

The set of public-private actions represent unprecedented commitments on forest protection and restoration, and sustainable cocoa production and farmer livelihoods. These combined actions, which are aligned with the Paris Climate Agreement, will play a crucial role in sequestering carbon stocks and thereby addressing global and local climate change.

## II. INDCRESA'S OVERALL VISION FOR THE COCOA & FORESTS INITIATIVE

Indcresa is aware of the supply chain risks in the Cocoa sector and especially the negative impact of deforestation on the environment and climate change.

Indcresa is a small medium enterprise (SME) that has an intermediate position in the supply chain. Indcresa does not act directly at origin, but buys its raw materials from the pressers, adding value to supply intermediate Cocoa Products to industrial users (B2B).

Indcresa's vision is that its main role is to raise awareness among suppliers, customers and industrial users, by taking some concrete actions at origin through its suppliers in order to stimulate the demand for sustainable products and to contribute to strengthened collective commitments in this direction.

## III. OVERVIEW OF COMPANY ACTION PLAN

INDCRESA'S action Plan presents the company's key activities and investments over the next years (2018-2022) to fulfill CFI commitments to end deforestation and degradation in the cocoa sectors, beginning in Ghana.

Indcresa actions will be focused on addressing mapping and traceability, conducting a risk assessment of the supply chain, promoting agroforestry with farmers, training in agroforestry, sensitization on land and tree tenure, support for the creation of savings groups (VSLA model) and training in income generating activities to provide alternative livelihoods to affected parties within a sustainable action plan.

Priorities outlined in the action plan align with the priorities developed in the CFI national implementation plans (Ghana).

Indcresa is a SME with no presence in origin, so we have developed a project with one of our suppliers to implement our CFI Plan. This supplier is Touton who has direct contact with Cocoa Board, the National Research Institute (CRIG) and the Forestry

Commission. Touton has 60 staff members dedicated to sustainable sourcing operations, 52 regionally based for coordination, supervision and implementation of the activities up to farmer and farm level.

Indcresa's plan will be conducted with a pool of 1000 farmers in the region of Brong Ahofo delivering cocoa beans that will contribute to an equivalent of 500 MT of cake.

This is an initial action plan, since the government has not yet provided important background information required by the companies to finalize our individual action plans (no boundary maps for protected forests, nor updated operational guidance about land-use in degraded forest areas). Therefore, some activities in this initial action plan is marked TBD "To Be Determined". The initial action plan will be finalized this year once the governments have provided the necessary data.

Aggregate action plans were shared with the governments for feedback prior to being finalized and published in order to ensure overall alignment.

## IV. PRIMARY ACTIVITIES AND INVESTMENTS

Touton will contribute to achieving CFI commitments goals for Indcresa by addressing mapping and traceability, conducting a risk assessment of the supply chain and promoting agroforestry with

farmers. As explained before, these interventions will be conducted with a pool of 1,000 farmers in the region of Brong Ahofo delivering cocoa beans that will contribute to an equivalent of 500 MT of cake.

### Registration of farmers and mapping requirements

The project shall map and establish a traceability system for all participating farmers to ensure that they are not in protected areas. This will be done by using a GPS mapping program developed by Touton that uses mobile platforms to capture the profiles of farmers and their cocoa farms through a socioeconomic survey and

exact mapping of the farm's location. The output polygons provide detailed information about farmers that our partner works with, including plot size, type and age of cocoa trees grown, the cultivation methods used, fertilizers usage, replanting activities, the use or not of shade trees.

### Risk Assessment

Risk assessment: In a typical cocoa sourcing landscape there is always a risk of side selling and leakages created by illegal farms hidden in protected areas. To mitigate this, an assessment of the risk will be conducted and a compliance map of the area of intervention will be

produced. This will serve as a basis for discussion on actions that can be taken in terms of farm and community interventions needed to contribute to better traceability.

### Promoting Agroforestry

The project shall promote the planting of shade trees (25 shade trees per hectare). This shall take into consideration the integration of economic shade tree species that provide at least 20-30% shade.

Community shade tree nurseries will be set up and supervised by qualified agronomists, with the distribution of 2,500 shade trees to the farmers per year.

### Promoting livelihoods

Farmers are encouraged to explore the benefits of producing additional crops. Training and marketing services are provided to support crop diversification for

nutrition improvement, food security and additional income, that all ultimately contribute to increasing farmers resilience.

### Empowering women

Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) play an important role in bringing financial services to rural areas where formal services are very limited. With some basic financial training we can help women set

up these VSLA to help them fund their own businesses. We will support the setup of VSLAs in 6 communities starting from 2020 and finishing in 2022.

### Promoting climate smart cocoa

Support for landscape governance facilitators (Manuals) as well as the development of communication material to sensitize communities on Climate Smart Cocoa production is a key element in fostering the support and understanding of the requirements and challenges by local communities. Farmers will be receiving sensitization sessions on climate smart cocoa and the latest information on land and tree tenure. Within the context of a sustainable

agricultural intensification action plan, farmers' wives will be supported with capacity building on income generating activities and setting up VSLAs (Village Savings and Loan Associations). Training will be provided in different areas: sensitization on CSC and tree tenure, training on income generating activities in the context of sustainable agricultural intensification action plan for women, as well as training on setting up of VSLAs

### Annex 1: Summary Table of Company Initial Action Plans for Ghana

Commitments	Actions	To be delivered by 2022
<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 supply chain to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest land	1,600 farms mapped
	1.2 Conduct deforestation risk assessments in all sourcing areas.	3,700 hectares included in risk assessment
2. No production and sourcing of cocoa from National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, and Wildlife Resource Reserves, except from farms with existing legal status.	2.1 All farms found in protected areas will be reported to the Government	Yes
	2.2 Adopt and publish a system for excluding farmers in the supply chain with cocoa production in protected areas.	
3. A differentiated approach for Forest Reserves will be adopted, based on level of degradation; with elimination of sourcing of cocoa in less degraded reserves (Cat.1) as of 31 December 2019; and production and sourcing for a period up to 25 years through MTS in more degraded reserves (Cat. 2).	3.1 End sourcing from all farms identified within Category 1 Forest Reserve areas by 31 December 2019.	Yes
	3.2 Support farmers in Category 2 Forest Reserve areas in their restoration and reforestation programs	# hectares of Category 2 Forest Reserve areas restored
4. In highly degraded off reserve forest lands, cocoa production and sourcing will continue, supported by climate smart cocoa and MTS.	4.1 Train farmers in off-reserve forest lands in CSC production including cocoa agroforestry systems	1,000 farmers trained in CSC best practices
	4.2 Train farmers in Modified Taungya System (MTS)	# farmers trained in MTS
5. In all areas, a multi-stakeholder landscape approach will be followed, with an initial focus on the six Climate-Smart Cocoa Hotspot Intervention Areas as defined under GCFRP.	5.1 Join one/several HIA(s) in the cocoa-sourcing area	# HIA(s) joined in cocoa sourcing areas
	5.2 Implement GCFRP CSC Good-Practice Guidelines with farmers within the HIAs	# farmers within HIAs have adopted CSC best practices
6. Up-to-date maps on forest cover and land-use, socio-economic data on cocoa farmers, and detailed operational guidelines covering Category 1 and 2 reserves, will all be developed and publicly disclosed.	6.1 Share maps and data with appropriate government bodies	Yes
	6.2 Participate in the development of operational guidelines for Category 1 and 2 Forest Reserves	No
	7.1 Support farmers with tree registration	# trees registered

7. Land and tree tenure reforms, and benefit sharing arrangement to incentivize land owners and users to retain naturally regenerated trees will be accelerated, including approval of CREMA mechanism.	7.2 Support cocoa farmers to acquire land (tenure) documentation	# farmers with secure land titles
8. Public sector forest law enforcement and governance will be strengthened	8.1 Promote awareness-raising campaigns to educate farmers on forest law enforcement and tree tenure provisions	1,000 farmers reached at awareness events
9. Public-private collaboration to mobilize new sources of funding for forest protection and restoration, and to incentivize farmers adoption of environmentally sustainable cocoa production will be developed.	9.1 Mobilize finance for forest protection and restoration	<i>Amount of \$ mobilized towards forest protection and restoration.</i>
		<i># hectares with forest protection &amp; restoration financing</i>
		<i># farmers participating in PES contracts</i>
10. Public-private collaboration will be enhanced to identify good practices and technical guidance for forest conservation and restoration, shade grown cocoa, and MTS in Forest Reserves.	10.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	10,000 multipurpose trees distributed for on-farm planting
	10.2 Support distribution and planting of native trees for off-farm restoration (reforestation)	400 hectares of cocoa agroforestry <i># native trees planted off-farm</i> <i># hectares of forest area restored</i>
	10.3 Train farmers in Modified Taungya System (MTS)	<i># farmers trained in MTS</i>
<b>Sustainable Production and Farmer Livelihoods</b>		
11. Promote investment in long-term productivity of high quality cocoa in environmentally sustainable manner and grow "more cocoa on less land."	11.1 Distribute improved cocoa planting material	<i># million improved seedlings distributed to farmers</i>
	11.2 Establish and/or provide cocoa nurseries with improved cocoa planting material	<i># nurseries with improved cocoa seedlings</i>
	11.3 Train farmers and producer organizations in the latest Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs)	1,000 farmers trained in GAPs
	11.4 Support cocoa farm rehabilitation	<i># of hectares of cocoa rehabilitated</i>
12. Develop implementation plans, including mapping of exact areas to intensify establishment of shaded cocoa landscapes in line with GCFRP, with the promotion of Climate Smart Cocoa and the national Climate Smart Cocoa Standard.	12.1 Promote the Climate Smart Cocoa Standard	<i>500 of farmers adopting CSC.</i>

13. Promote sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers.	13.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	10,000 multipurpose trees distributed for on-farm planting ----- 400 hectares of cocoa agroforestry
	13.2 Promote farm-level crop diversification	
14. Promote financial inclusion and innovation to deepen farmers' access to working capital and investment funds required for production and cocoa farm rehabilitation and renovation.	14.1 Promote expansion of farmer savings	# farmers in supply chain with a savings account ----- 400 farmers participating in VSLA groups
	14.2 Offer financial products to farmers	# farmers offered a financial product
15. Improve supply chain mapping, with 100% of cocoa sourcing traceable from farm to first purchase point. An action plan will be developed that maps out key principles, steps, and milestones to achieve this step, encompassing all national and international traders.	15.1 Conduct mapping to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries polygon data	1600 farms mapped within direct supply chain -----
	# communities with consultation sessions	100% cocoa supply traceable from individual farms to first purchase point
<b>Social Inclusion and Community Engagement</b>		
16. Full and effective information sharing, consultation, and informed participation of cocoa farmers and their communities who are affected by proposed land-use changes.	16.1 Organize cocoa community consultations on the implementation of the Frameworks for Action	# communities with consultation sessions
17. Promote community-based management models for forest protection and restoration.	17.1 Establish and/or support community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) programs for forest restoration/protection	# cocoa communities with active forest restoration and protection program. ----- # hectares under CBNRM
18. Development of action plans for forest protection and restoration, and sustainable agricultural intensification that are gender and youth sensitive.	18.1 Develop forest protection & restoration and agriculture intensification action plans that are youth and gender sensitive	14 communities with gender-focused programs. 900 women will be trained on agricultural intensification (ratio 66 farmers per community) ----- # cocoa communities with youth-focused programs.

**TBD = To Be Determined, following additional inputs from Government**