Report
Second exchange meeting Ghana-Côte d'Ivoire
Cocoa & Forests Initiative
May 24, 2018, Mensvic Hôtel, Accra

## 1. Introduction

The Cocoa and Forests Initiative is an active engagement between the major cocoa producing countries, notably Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, and the leading chocolate and cocoa companies to eliminate deforestation in the cocoa value chain.

As part of this initiative, regular meetings between stakeholders from both countries are organized with the aim of creating a platform for discussion and information sharing to develop synergies in implementation.

It is in this context that on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at Hotel Mensvic in Accra, the second exchange meeting between Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire was held. The main objective of this meeting was to share ideas on specific themes, namely: (i) detailed planning of the implementation of the initiative in each country; ii) the monitoring and evaluation framework; iii) mapping tools and methodologies. The meeting recorded the participation of the Ivorian and Ghanaian delegations composed of the members of the public administration, the private sector partners, the civil society organizations of the two countries.

This report gives an account of the progress of the work and specifies the main recommendations resulting from the exchange.

## 2. Proceedings of the meeting

After the series of speeches, the meeting took place in three stages. The first session was dedicated to sharing information on progress in developing the implementation plan. The second session was devoted to the exchange of mapping tools and methodologies. The third session was an opportunity to share information on the REDD+ monitoring and evaluation framework and its alignment with the Cocoa and Forests Initiative. On the basis of the results of the exchanges, the two delegations agreed on the next steps.

### A. **Opening remarks**

The speeches were marked by the welcome address of the Director General of the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources of Ghana Mr. Prof Patrick Kofi Agbessi followed by an opening remark of his counterpart the Director of Cabinet of the Ministry of Water and Forests in Côte d'Ivoire and the director of environment of WCF representing the industry.

The Director mentioned in his address that the Government of Ghana believes in agricultural potential in improving the living conditions of the people. This is the reason that led the country to commit to sustainable agriculture through the Cocoa and Forests Initiative. Given that Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire produce 60% of world cocoa production worked together to ensure sustainable cocoa production.

In turn, the head of the Ivorian delegation thanked the Ghanaian government and especially the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources of Ghana for this invitation. He noted the choice of the two countries to come together to determine a common strategy for cocoa especially in terms of sustainable production. He said that the Ivorian government approved on May 22, 2018 its formal framework that will define the forest preservation strategy in which the Initiative is framed.

To conclude the series of speeches, WCF's Director of Environment welcomed the momentum around the Cocoa and Forest Initiative which notes the commitment of several industries of which 27 have started developing their individual plans. He welcomed the significant progress made in the preparation of the implementation plans in both countries.

After the speaking round, the antitrust statement was read. The meeting agenda which focused on three points: (i) progress in developing the implementation plan; ii) mapping tools and methodologies; iii) the REDD + monitoring and evaluation framework and its alignment with the Cocoa and Forests Initiative.

## 3. Progress on the development of the implementation plans

Both countries were invited to present the progress made in the preparation of the implementation plan. The presentations highlighted the process adopted by highlighting some key elements of the draft implementation plans.

The Ghanaian delegation presented on the following:

o The "Climate Smart Cocoa" standard and its role within the Cocoa and Forests Initiative;
o The Hotspot Intervention Areas approach;

As for the Ivorian side, the focus has been on:

o The operation of thematic groups and their inclusiveness;
o Feasibility study planned on a uniform national traceability system and its role within the Cocoa and Forests Initiative.

### B. In-country processes on the development of the plans

#### GHANA

This presentation was provided by the representative of the Ministry of Lands of Ghana. Following the signing of the Framework for Action in November 2017, the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources organized a consultation meeting between the government and industry partners in the cocoa and forestry sector to agree on milestones to prepare and produce a first draft of the Implementation Plan.

At the end of this meeting, several stakeholder meetings were organized to refine the draft version. After these meetings, it was agreed to set up working groups to deepen reflections on specific topics namely:

- Traceability - develop a strategy for a comprehensive traceability system in the national cocoa regulatory and marketing framework in Ghana;
- Mapping - Link national discussions and investments on map consolidation to monitor deforestation;
- Agroforestry;
- Monitoring evaluation.

The Steering Committee will meet in June to approve the final version of the document before the launch scheduled for July 2018.

#### CÔTE D'IVOIRE

The presentation was made by the head of the delegation Chair of the technical committee. Côte d'Ivoire's implementation plan was developed during the period from January to June 2018 according to an inclusive approach based on a governance framework put in place at the end of a launching workshop. The governance framework is composed of six (6) thematic groups in charge of advising the technical committee with action plan formulations. Several thematic group meetings were organized with a view to producing a detailed action plan submitted to the Technical Committee.

The members of the Technical Committee held two meetings on 05 April and 09 May 2018 in order to review the results of the work of the thematic groups and approve the action plans before its validation by the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee is the supreme body of the governance framework in charge of validating the final version of the plan before it is implemented. The members of the committee will meet on June 29, 2018 for this purpose.

## C. Ghana standard Climate Smart Cocoa

The presentation was made by Ernest Dwamena on the progress made in setting up the "Climate Smart Cocoa" standards. This initiative was born from examining the aspirations of cocoa communities of holistic standards for forest restoration. The standard is the result of a long process that started after the development of the national REDD + strategy. The programs developed by OLAM made it possible to draw lessons from the development of the standard of standards based on the report produced by CIAT in relation with WCF; COCOBOD as an institution was to take the lead of the initiative. The standard was developed through consultations with several partners. The standard addresses a holistic approach (Landscape) based on five (5) areas aimed at mitigating the impacts of climate change. For questions related to the rules of the standard, a secretariat will be implemented for the coordination of interventions. Companies will be able to continue their certification system while putting in place a landscape approach. COCOBOD has proposed the CSC standard in the market and encourages stakeholders to limit deforestation. A uniform monitoring and reporting system for all actors is being defined.

To allow for scaling the idea is to put in place a framework on which the different actors can rely for the implementation of their activities. The goal is to bring the various actors to work in synergy, being able to have impacts that are not limited only to cocoa but how it can extend to the biodiversity and conservation component.

## D. Approach of Hotspot Intervention Areas

Ghana, like other countries in the sub region, has seen its forest cover reduced due to several factors, including agriculture. At the level of agriculture, the main speculation is cocoa cultivation. Cocoa occupies an important place in the country's economy. As such, the goal of REDD+ is to reduce deforestation in the supply chain. The five (5) pillars are: 1) institutional arrangement and MRV; 2) Landscape planning in hotspot intervention areas; 3) implementation of the Climate Smart Standard for sustainable production; 4) risk management and financing 5) policy and legislative reforms.

For the implementation of these actions the country has opted for an approach based on priority areas. Three parameters guided the choice of priority areas: 1) prevalence of deforestation; 2) ongoing projects and initiatives implemented by the private sector and state actors; 3) population pressure. The strengths of the program are ownership and national coordination along with political commitment.

There is awareness of the effects of climate change and the need to change the paradigm at the national level. Private sector companies are committed to registering their product in the Climate Smart Standard that is being considered by the Government of Ghana.

Beyond the landscape approach, policy reforms are foreseen on tree ownership to provide benefits to farmers and encourage reforestation. Next to that the government also considers policies to provide solutions to illegal mining practices.
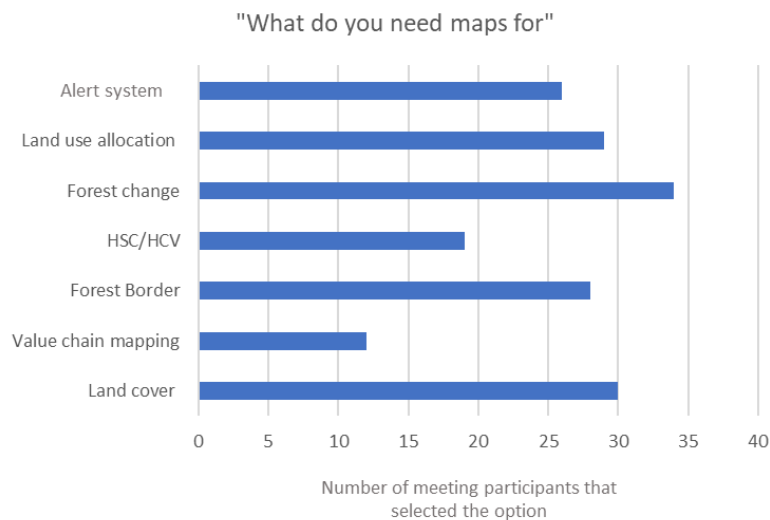
### E. Feasibility study for a uniform cocoa traceability system in Côte d'Ivoire

The terms of reference of this study were presented by Marc Daubrey (chair of the Traceability Group in Côte d'Ivoire). The aim of the study is to propose a national system for monitoring the Ivorian cocoa supply chain that allows full traceability. This study will be completed by the end of 2018 and will then propose potential pilots to test in the field. The participants insisted on strong involvement of the Conseil du Café Cacao.

Today, several private sector companies have implemented their systems. The work will consist of harmonization with a view to putting together a database of references. The industrialists have databases of the producers and the Conseil du Café Cacao intends to carry out a census with a unique codification of the producers. A prerequisite remains the issue of land ownership in the context of the initiative.

## 4. Tools and methods for mapping

The data in maps is of great value to the Cacao and Forests Initiative for both the government and the private sector. At the start of this session participants were asked for what purpose they need maps:



"What do you need maps for"

Number of meeting participants that selected the option

### A. Presentation on geo spatial data: collection and delivery mechanism

Caroline Winchester of the World Resources Initiative (WRI) was invited to share knowledge on the elements needed for the establishment of a robust deforestation monitoring system. In the presentation, she began by describing the different types of maps that can be generated. Geospatial data includes a variety of data namely: i) land use maps; ii) satellite imagery; iii) land cover maps; iv) forest change datasets. In a second part, she gave orientations on the objectives to which these cards can answer and how they interact.

There are radar and lidar type data. It is important to know the resolution to make good interpretations and cover the entire area. It gives precise explanations of the different types of data given for land cover, land use change and sources of access.

Key elements to take into account when setting up a surveillance system:

- What are the data requirements?
- What is the delivery mechanism needed?
- How long should the M & E system be maintained?
- Land-use maps corresponding to the action frameworks:
  - Côte d'Ivoire: HCV / HCS Zones, National Parks & Reserves, Forest Reserves, Sacred Forests
  - Ghana: HCV / HCS Areas, National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Wildlife Reserves, Forest Reserves
  - Both: land cover maps that robustly identify areas of cocoa production

Forest change datasets that identify deforestation due to expansion of cocoa production:

- Annual data set on deforestation in support of action frameworks
- A set of weekly and biweekly alert data on deforestation to solve problems as they arise;
- A platform for each government to conduct monitoring at the national level in a transparent manner, as indicated in the frameworks;
- A platform that companies can use to monitor deforestation in relation to the cocoa farms from which they come, and report on progress as outlined in the frameworks.

The following insights surfaced after the discussions:

- It will be key to harmonize the data and have a dedicated platform which is automatized and can incorporate data from companies / individual users.
- Maps should be updated regularly to track deforestation through land use. Some of the technologies include this feature but in general terms it's costly.
- It is essential to define a protocol for the sharing of data.
- It is difficult to differentiate cocoa plantations under forest but technologies such as Lidar laser remote sensing data can be used.

B. **"Mapping partners" – understanding who wants, develops, manages and uses maps**

The purpose of this exercise was to allow participants to list the different types of entities, their roles and responsibilities as well as their interests and wishes. The focus has been on government authorities, industry, CSOs.

The government, as a sovereign structure, in terms of regulation must own the map data and make it available to other structures. The development of maps and monitoring of the data is the role of the government. This requires harmonization between the different governmental agencies to also assure maps are updated continuously. The advantage will be to have information well channelled facilitating access to maps and data to the other actors. When desired service providers could support the partners

The below table summarizes the outcomes of the exchanges on roles and responsibilities of different stakeholder types with regard to maps and data.

| | Government | Industry | Service Providers | Civil Society |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Ownership** | Owner of the maps and coordination of access | Mapping of plantations | Develop a platform of tools and applications | |
| **Development** | Give instructions and express needs | Mapping of value chains<br><br>Monitor (the expansion of) agricultural land | Support government and industry with expertise | Local communities can play a role in monitoring |
| **Access** | Make maps and data available with well-defined specifications<br><br>Monitoring of forest cover<br><br>Government should have illimited access | Adapted to their value chain and the link to forests | Needed for them to play their supportive role | Have access to exisiting maps |
| **Utilization** | For planning strategies | Feedback to farmers and cooperatives within the M&E system | Provide expertise advice | Local communities can play a role in monitoring |

## 5. Monitoring and measurement of the Initiative

The implementation plans of the two countries include a section dedicated to monitoring and measurement. The Initiative's M&E framework will be linked to the REDD+ strategies. Therefore, the REDD+ process leaders from both countries were invited to share the high-level indicators and the alignment with existing frameworks, in particular the respective REDD + mechanisms.

A.

## Outputs

- 1.a.1 Strengthened REDD+ Secretariat
- 1.a.2 Strengthened REDD+ NRWG, and NREG TCC+
- 1.a.3 Strengthened National Forest Forum
- 1.a.4 ENRAC established
- 1.b.1 Consultation and participation working groups established
- 1.b.2 REDD+ information sharing activities: trainings, briefing materials, stakeholder led information sharing
- 1.b.3 Expert consultations, workshops, and focus groups
- 1.b.4 Stakeholder consultations on key pilot projects and legal / institutional changes
- 1.b.5 Validation consultation for national REDD+ strategy
- 2.a.1 Research studies on land use, forest policy, and governance to further understand causes and drivers
- 2.b.1 Studies to support national expert consultations
- 2.b.2 Information dissemination through media and internet
- 2.b.2 Demonstration and pilot activities
- 2.b.2 Final REDD+ Strategy selected
- 2.c.1 Information clearinghouse function addressed through FC sub-website for REDD+
- 2.c.2 Information sharing protocol on financial aspects, and best practice options for benefit sharing
- 2.c.3 REDD+/FIP pilot projects with lessons produced
- 2.c.4 Institutional arrangements mapping, and institutional capacity strengthening activities
- 2.c.5 Carbon accounting registry management arrangements defined
- 2.c.6 Conflict resolution institutional arrangements defined

## Outcomes

- O1.a Governance for REDD+ readiness fully deployed
- O1.b Stakeholders from local to national level capable and willing to engage on REDD+ implementation
- O2.a Improved knowledge and understanding of key drivers for deforestation and forest degradation
- O2.b Comprehensive and coherent REDD+ implementation strategy formally validated nationally
- O2.c Governance framework for REDD+ implementation fully developed and validated

## Intermediate Impacts

- I.1 Improved forest governance in support of sustainable Forest Management
- I.2 Reduced emissions from deforestation, forest degradation and from sequestration through selected demonstration
- I.3 Ghana enters into an international REDD+ funding modality
- I.4 Equitable benefit sharing of REDD+ actually takes place
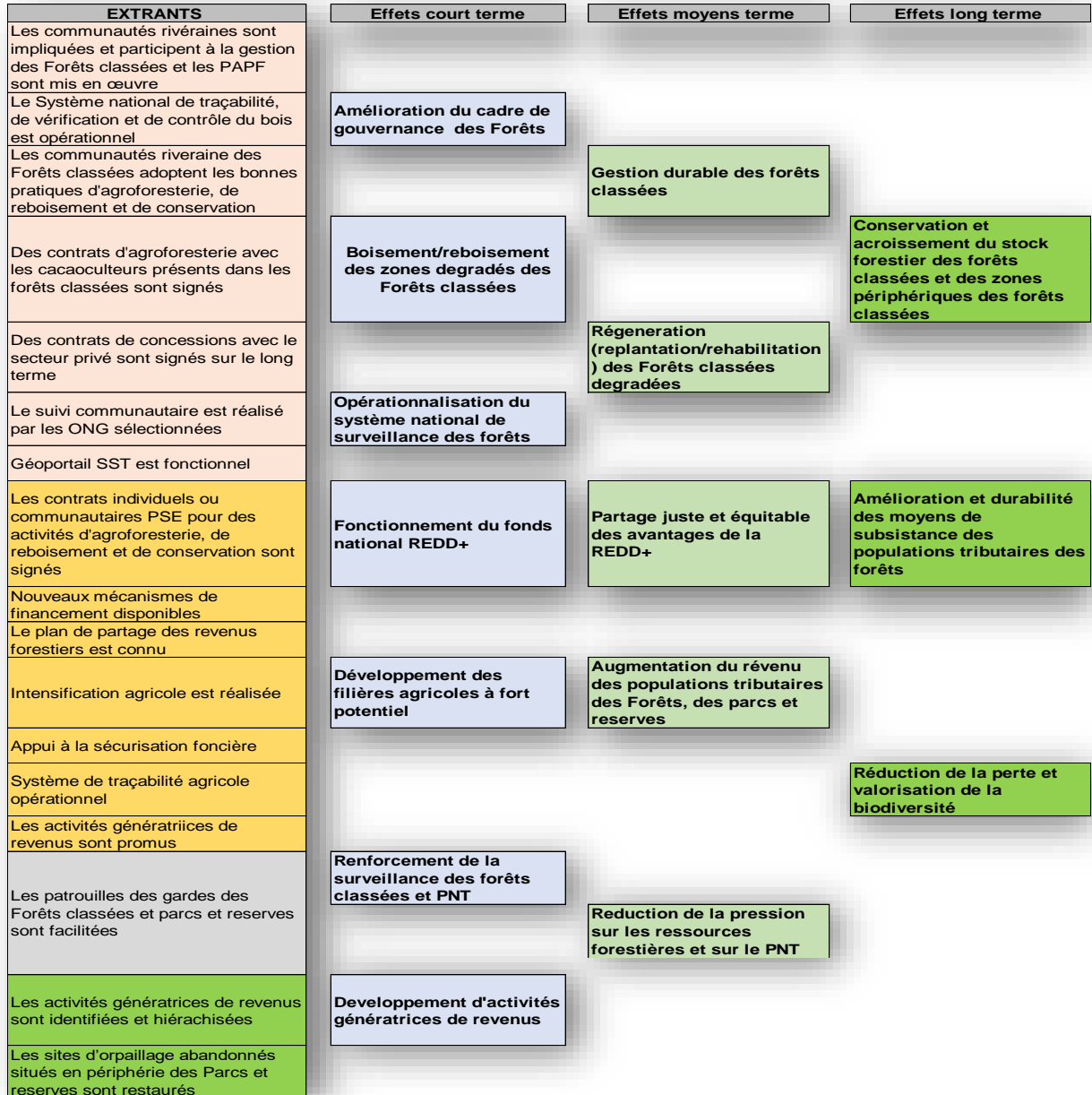- I.5 Threats to forest biodiversity reduced

## Global Long-term Impacts (Global FCPF M&E Framework)

- Reduced greenhouse gasses leading to reduced long-term climate change impacts
- Sustainable or enhanced livelihoods of forest dependent peoples
- Biodiversity conserved

Cacao et Forêts

Forests Initiative

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| EXTRANTS | Effets court terme | Effets moyens terme | Effets long terme |
|---|---|---|---|
| Les communautés riveraines sont impliquées et participent à la gestion des Forêts classées et les PAPF sont mis en œuvre | | | |
| Le Système national de traçabilité, de vérification et de contrôle du bois est opérationnel | Amélioration du cadre de gouvernance des Forêts | | |
| Les communautés riveraine des Forêts classées adoptent les bonnes pratiques d'agroforesterie, de reboisement et de conservation | | Gestion durable des forêts classées | |
| Des contrats d'agroforesterie avec les cacaoculteurs présents dans les forêts classées sont signés | Boisement/reboisement des zones degradés des Forêts classées | | Conservation et acroissement du stock forestier des forêts classées et des zones périphériques des forêts classées |
| Des contrats de concessions avec le secteur privé sont signés sur le long terme | | Régeneration (replantation/rehabilitation) des Forêts classées degradées | |
| Le suivi communautaire est réalisé par les ONG sélectionnées | Opérationnalisation du système national de surveillance des forêts | | |
| Géoportail SST est fonctionnel | | | |
| Les contrats individuels ou communautaires PSE pour des activités d'agroforesterie, de reboisement et de conservation sont signés | Fonctionnement du fonds national REDD+ | Partage juste et équitable des avantages de la REDD+ | Amélioration et durabilité des moyens de subsistance des populations tributaires des forêts |
| Nouveaux mécanismes de financement disponibles | | | |
| Le plan de partage des revenus forestiers est connu | | | |
| Intensification agricole est réalisée | Développement des filières agricoles à fort potentiel | Augmentation du révenu des populations tributaires des Forêts, des parcs et reserves | |
| Appui à la sécurisation foncière | | | |
| Système de traçabilité agricole opérationnel | | | Réduction de la perte et valorisation de la biodiversité |
| Les activités génératriices de revenus sont promus | | | |
| Les patrouilles des gardes des Forêts classées et parcs et reserves sont facilitées | Renforcement de la surveillance des forêts classées et PNT | | |
| | | Reduction de la pression sur les ressources forestières et sur le PNT | |
| Les activités génératrices de revenus sont identifiées et hiérachisées | Developpement d'activités génératrices de revenus | | |
| Les sites d'orpaillage abandonnés situés en périphérie des Parcs et reserves sont restaurés | | | |

Participants were asked to indicate the importance they give to various elements of the Initiative's M&E framework which is currently being developed

1. How important is it to have an alignment between Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire for the M&E of the initiative?
   - *For the majority of participants, the two countries have similarities and the same issues in the fight against deforestation, so it is important to develop synergies. However, the alignment will not be 100% given specificities of each country*

2. How important is it to have a full data sharing between government and industry?
   - *Participants unanimously agreed on the need to share information between government and industry for transparency as a key condition for success of the initiative and will allow both parties to monitor developments and improvements.*

3. How important is it to have the Initiative's M&E framework aligned with the REDD+ monitoring framework?
   - *The REDD+ mechanism is broader than the Initiative framework. As such, the M&E framework must be part of the REDD+ mechanism.*

## 6. Conclusions et next steps

A. **Key points**

- Presentation of Ghana was rich of information which allowed on the one hand to exchange on the Climate Smart Cocoa standard and the possibility of adopting it within the framework of the Initiative and others on the priority zones of intervention and the landscape approach can be scaled.
- The World Resource Institute presented on the need of mapping and the availability of different types of maps. Clarity on roles and responsibilities of each of the stakeholders allows effective use by the partners concerned. The two countries will seek to collaborate on the development of maps and the use of methodologies and tools.
- The importance of the synergy between the REDD+ framework and the Initiative was reconfirmed. In the next steps this, requires further alignment with existing initiatives.

B. **The next steps**

- IDH and WCF will facilitate further exchanges and deepening of the identified topics to further support crosspollination. Partners will also be put in direct contact with one-another. Focal points in each country will be identified to discuss, develop and share knowledge on specific issues.
- The objective will be to meet again in one-year time
- In November an international steering committee meeting will be organized the two countries to present the implementation plan and solicit support from partners and donors

## 7. Closure

The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resource thanked all the participants for the fruitful and informative exchanges. He recalled that Ghana intends to launch the implementation of the activities of the initiative in July. He finished by wishing a safe trip to the members of the Ivorian delegation.

The head of the Ivorian delegation thanked the Government of Ghana for hosting the meeting and the conditions for the meeting.

IDH's Cocoa Program Manager (Jonas Mva Mva) also praised the quality of the exchange. He insisted on the alignment and the development of synergies and convergences between the two because the initiative is conducted with the same actors of the industry both in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

## 8. Participants list

| | **Joint Meeting - CDI & Ghana** | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **Name** | **Organization** | **Position** |
| 1. | Ovarra Youssouf | 07PR | Chargis |
| 2. | Samuel Apana | Cargill | Sustainability Country Lead |
| 3. | Albert Kataku | Civic Response | Head of Program |
| 4. | Vancutsem Cedric | Modelez Cocoa Life | |
| 5. | Simon Crown | COCOBOD | Research Manager |
| 6. | Vincent Akomeah | COCOBOD | Director RM&R |
| 7. | Marjolijn Hekelaar | Coconect | Sustainbility Rep |
| 8. | YAPO Assamoi Robert | Consultant | Consultant |
| 9. | Yaw Osei Owusu | Conversation Alliance | Director |
| 10. | Esi Nana Sekyiamah | Ecom | RD SMS |
| 11. | Samuel Mawutor | Forest Watch | Forest Watch / Civil Response |
| 12. | Kwame Agyei | Forestry Commission | Assistant Manager |
| 13. | Charles Sarpong Duah | Forestry Commission | Assistant Manager |
| 14. | Thomas Gyambrah | Forestry Commission | Assistant Manager |
| 15. | Kobby Optson | Freelance | Logistics |
| 16. | Albert Martey | Hershey | |
| 17. | John Koranteng | J & P | Interpretor |
| 18. | Emmanuel Adoricon | J & P | Tech |
| 19. | Charles Kodjo | J & P | Interpretor |
| 20. | Tei Ogum | MESTI | Assistant Director |
| 21. | N'GUESSAN Koffi Rodrigue | Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural | Director |
| 22. | GBOGOU Didier Lohoury | Ministère des Eaux et Forêts | |
| 23. | Col. GOUESSE Aidara Lanciné | Ministère des Eaux et Forêts | IT |
| 24. | KOUAKOU Kan Michel | Ministère des Eaux et Forêts | |
| 25. | Joseph Osiakwan | MLNR | Chief Planning Officer |
| 26. | Abraham Otabil | MLNR | PRO |
| 27. | Prof Patrick Agbesinyall | MLNR | Chief Director |
| 28. | Mbalo Ndiaye | Mondelez Cocoa Life | Country Lead, Cote d'Ivoire |
| 29. | Nana Aknokye Frimpong | National House of Chiefs | Chief |
| 30. | Fred Kukubor | Nestle | Manager NCP |
| 31. | Isaac K. B. Sackey | Olam | Sustainability Manager |

| 32. | Kennedy Ntoso | Olam | Sustainability |
|-----|---------------|------|----------------|
| 33. | Andrew Brooks | Olam Cocoa | Director of Sustainability |
| 34. | Michael Klutse | P4F | M&E Officer |
| 35. | Augustus Asamoah | PROFOREST | Principle PJ Manager |
| 36. | Edward Obiaw | RMSC/FC | Director |
| 37. | Mamadou Sangare | SODEFOR | DG |
| 38. | Ouattara Napnamane | SEP-REDD+ | N&A Specialist |
| 39. | Joseph Lumumba | TAF2020 | Africa Coordinator |
| 40. | Ernest Dwamena | Touton | Manager |
| 41. | Sona H. Ebai | Tree Global | Regional Rep |
| 42. | Doreen Asumang-Yeboah | Tropenbos | N&A Export |
| 43. | K. S. Nketiah | Tropenbos | Consultant |
| 44. | Kwame K. Asumadu | UNDP-ESP | Forest and Cover Specialist |
| 45. | Vincent Frimpong Manu | WCF | Country Director |
| 46. | Ethan Budiansky | WCF | Director of Environment |
| 47. | Caroline Winchester | WRI | Research Analyst GFW |
| 48. | DAUBREY Marc | Impactum | Consultant |
| 49. | Evans Kissi | | Student |
| 50. | Abukari Ridwan | | Sustainbility Manager |
| 51. | Jonas Mva Mva | IDH | Cocoa Program Director |
| 52. | Glowen Kyei-Mensah | IDH | Program Manager |
| 53. | Gillian Evans | IDH | Communication Manager |
| 54. | Elie Leyahi | IDH | Consultant |
| 55. | Renske Aarnoudse | IDH | Country Manager CDI |