



# SECURING COCOA SUPPLY THROUGH A SECTOR WIDE WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT COMMUNITY APPROACH

## IMPROVING SECTOR GOVERNANCE

By accounting for gender in standards, policies, and public commitments, new markets, increased resilience of value chains, improved livelihoods and working conditions, including the reduction of gender based violence (GBV), are achieved.



CocoaAction, a voluntary industry-wide strategy that aligns the world's leading cocoa and chocolate companies, national governments and key stakeholders, aims to secure cocoa supply by 2020 in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire. CocoaAction coordinates programs on cocoa production and community development that include a commitment to promoting gender equality in the industry.

Women play a key role in cocoa production processes that determine the quality of cocoa, such as sorting and drying. In Côte d'Ivoire, 25% of farm owners are female and women make up 68% of the labor force, however the cocoa sector realized that training and extension services primarily reached men. Improving women's access to training and addressing female farmers' needs are essential to improve living and working conditions and to increase yields and quality of cocoa.

### SECURING COCOA SUPPLY IN 2020 IS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH:

- Identifying points of intervention for female producers through mapping the gendered division of roles in the supply chain.
- Training on production and marketing activities relevant to women and adapting technology to women's use.
- Providing training at convenient times and places by developing alternatives to in-person events such as Video Viewing Clubs to bring female farmers together to learn technical skills.

### WHY INTEGRATE GENDER?

Training female farmers improves living conditions and increases the sector's resilience

Adjusting training and services leads to more skilled female smallholders and increases the products' quality