

Roadmap for the DISCO partnership to realize its ambitions

Ending all forms of child
labour

1. Introduction

A key sustainability issue in the major cocoa producing regions is the high prevalence of child labour in cocoa growing communities. Therefore, the Dutch Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa committed to **the prevention and elimination of all forms of child labour from the cocoa production regions and that DISCO parties will have taken effective measures and necessary actions contributing to ending all forms of child labour by 2025 (as outlined in SDG 8.7).**

To develop recommendations on how signatories can contribute effectively towards achieving the commitments, a dedicated working group was established to develop this roadmap and framework for implementation, monitoring and reporting on the necessary initiatives leading to the DISCO objectives. The working group that worked on this roadmap is comprised of the following members:

- Jana Sillen – Barry Callebaut (left during the process)
- Herma Mulder – Barry Callebaut
- Neelke Verhelst – Barry Callebaut
- David Schwebel – Cargill Cocoa & Chocolate
- Lieke Guinée – ETG/Beyond Beans
- Anna Laven (passive member) – KIT, Royal Tropical Institute
- Daan van der Meer – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands
- Anne Kempers – RVO
- Josette Hermans – Save the Children (left during the process)
- Vincent Vleugel – UNICEF The Netherlands
- Mark de Waard – IDH

This Roadmap is structured around the following chapters:

- **Chapter 1 ‘Introduction’** describes the DISCO commitment on ending child labour and the roadmap development process through the DISCO child labour Working Group
- **Chapter 2 ‘Summary of actions by DISCO signatories’** summarises and highlights the specific actions relevant for each subsector within DISCO and what is expected from each of them
- **Chapter 3 ‘Detailed guidance for implementing actions by DISCO signatories’** describes the actions that will be taken by DISCO. The actions described in this section are:
 - Determine the current deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems
 - Develop plans for rolling out of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems
 - Strengthen the institutional environment and empower local communities aimed at preventing and eradicating child labour
 - Reporting on progress
- **Chapter 4 ‘Recommendations for follow up’** describes the advice given by the working group on what should be further developed after the finalization of this Roadmap version in September 2021. This advice for follow up could be done within DISCO, or in collaboration with other initiatives such as Beyond Chocolate, GISCO, SWISSCO.

All described actions are based on the main DISCO commitment from the DISCO declaration¹ on ending all forms of child labour and under each detailed action, a reference is made to that main commitment. In the described actions, a reference is made to which types of DISCO signatories can play what role in these actions. The actions include both individual supply chain actions and joint collaborative actions. Taking individual actions by organizations that are active in the cocoa sector are necessary to contribute to ending child labour. But alignment with other signatories within DISCO and collaboration with other

¹ <https://www.idhsustainabletrade.com/publication/dutch-initiative-on-sustainable-cocoa-disco-declaration/>

existing initiatives and stakeholders outside DISCO is essential for strengthening, scaling and accelerating efforts to address child labour in cocoa growing communities.

As new insights and developments emerge and roles and responsibilities evolve, this Roadmap should be seen as a living document that will be updated by the working group when needed.

Overview of DISCO signatories: supply chain signatories

Traders/processors	Large manufacturers	Smaller manufacturers	Retailers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barry Callebaut • Cargill Cocoa & Chocolate • Crafting Markets • Export Trading Group (ETG) • JS Cocoa • Olam Cocoa • Tradin Organic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MARS • Mondelēz • Nestlé • Tony's Chocolonely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delicia • De Euforij Chocolate • Friesland Campina 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albert Heijn • Chocoladeverkopers • Jumbo • Superunie

Overview of DISCO signatories: non-supply chain signatories

Government	Certification/standard organizations	Civil society	Service providers & knowledge institutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands • Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of The Netherlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairtrade Nederland • Rainforest Alliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairfood • Farmgate Cocoa Alliance Oxfam Novib • Save the Children • Solidaridad Network • Tropenbos International • UNICEF The Netherlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriterra • Agro Eco • Equipoise • Port of Amsterdam • Koninklijk Instituut voor de Tropen

2. Summary of actions by DISCO signatories

This chapter summarises and highlights the specific actions relevant for each subsector within DISCO. For more details and the overview of what the actions entail, please consult chapter 3 'Detailed guidance for implementing actions by DISCO signatories' of this Roadmap.

Cocoa traders and processors

Traders and processors are through their service delivery models and procurement practices directly engaged with farmers and producer organizations and create therefore the connection between them and other actors further downstream in the supply chain.

In this regard, cocoa trading and processing companies (and where needed in collaboration with other actors in their specific supply chain) will:

- determine the current deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems in their supply chain that meet the criteria defined in the ICI CLMRS Benchmarking Study
- comply with OECD due diligence guidelines by conducting due diligence in order to identify, prevent, mitigate and account for how they address actual and potential adverse human rights impacts in their own operations, their supply chain and other business relationships. They therefore increase the volume in their supply chain where the risk of child labour is adequately addressed
- integrate due diligence assessments on the risk of child labour into their cocoa sustainability programs and commercial offerings to enable clients downstream in the supply chain purchasing cocoa-based products in line with the DISCO ambitions on ending child labour
- collaborate with local stakeholders (national and local governments, private sector and local civil society organizations) and relevant initiatives to establish multistakeholder collaborations/PPPs to bundle efforts around strengthening the institutional environment and empowering local communities to address the root causes of child labour.
- report on the progress and efforts made towards increasing the deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems or due diligence assessments in their supply chain

Chocolate manufacturers (large) and brands

Chocolate brands and manufacturing companies are in some origins directly engaged (often through cocoa sustainability programs) with the farming families they are sourcing cocoa from, while for another part of their supply chain they are only indirectly engaged with the farming families they are sourcing cocoa from through their suppliers.

In this regard, chocolate brands and manufacturing companies will:

- (alongside their suppliers where needed) determine the current deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems in their supply chain that meet the criteria defined in the ICI CLMRS Benchmarking Study
- (alongside their suppliers where needed) comply with OECD due diligence guidelines by conducting due diligence in order to identify, prevent, mitigate and account for how they address actual and potential adverse human rights impacts in their own operations, their supply chain and other business relationships. They therefore increase the volume in their supply chain where the risk of child labour is adequately addressed
- integrate due diligence assessments on the risk of child labour into their cocoa sustainability programs and commercial offerings to enable clients downstream in the supply chain purchasing cocoa-based products in line with the DISCO ambitions on ending child labour
- collaborate with local stakeholders (national and local governments, private sector and local civil society organizations) and relevant initiatives to establish multistakeholder collaborations/PPPs to bundle efforts around strengthening the institutional environment and empowering local communities to address the root causes of child labour

- report on the progress and efforts made towards increasing the deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems

Chocolate manufacturers (small)

Smaller chocolate manufacturing companies are usually indirectly engaged with cocoa farming families through their suppliers of cocoa-based products.

In this regard, smaller chocolate manufacturing companies will contribute to the DISCO child labour ambitions by:

- having demand specifications towards their suppliers in purchasing cocoa-based products from cocoa sustainability programs or certification schemes that cover due diligence assessments on the risk of child labour
- develop strategies to increase the volume of cocoa-based products from these cocoa sustainability programs or certification schemes and define together with their suppliers how cost-sharing will be addressed
- report on the volume of cocoa-based products that is purchased from cocoa sustainability programs or certification schemes that include child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems

Retailers

Retailers are closely related to consumers and are only through their suppliers of cocoa-based products for both private label and chocolate brands indirectly engaged with cocoa producing countries and landscapes.

In this regard, retailers will contribute to the DISCO child labour ambitions by:

- having demand specifications towards their suppliers in purchasing cocoa-based products from cocoa sustainability programs or certification schemes that cover due diligence assessments on the risk of child labour
- develop strategies to increase the volume of cocoa-based products from these cocoa sustainability programs or certification schemes and define together with their suppliers how cost-sharing will be addressed
- communicating to consumers to enhance consumer awareness and promote market demand for cocoa-based products from actors taking actions on child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation and supporting child rights
- report on the volume of cocoa-based products that is purchased from cocoa sustainability programs or certification schemes that include child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems

Civil society organizations, service providers & knowledge institutes, and certification & standard organizations

The civil society, service providers & knowledge institutes and certification & standard organizations subsectors in DISCO consist of a diverse group of organizations. Some organizations have (through their counterpart organizations) direct relationships with farmers, producer organizations or local governments in cocoa sourcing countries, some act as implementing partners in field level projects, some have expertise on the DISCO impact areas, and some are through their certification schemes engaged with both the cocoa industry and farmers and cooperatives.

In this regard, civil society organizations, service providers & knowledge institutes and certification & standard organizations support companies in the DISCO child labour ambitions by (only the ones that are applicable to their organization):

- collaborating with local stakeholders (national and local governments, private sector and local civil society organizations) and relevant initiatives to establish multistakeholder collaborations/PPPs to bundle efforts around strengthening the institutional environment and empowering local communities to address the root causes of child labour.

- integrating child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems into their certification schemes to enable clients downstream in the supply chain purchasing cocoa-based products in line with the DISCO ambitions on child labour
- fill existing knowledge gaps on effective approaches to address child labour
- reporting on efforts made to support the industry in reaching its DISCO ambitions around child labour

Government

The Dutch government has through their embassies and consuls in the cocoa producing countries a long-lasting strong relationship with the local authorities and a strong G2G (government to government) relationships with European countries. The Dutch government also has subsidies/programs that can provide financial support and stimulate knowledge exchange in relation to the DISCO impact areas.

In this regard, the Dutch government will contribute to the DISCO ending child labour ambitions by:

- collaborate with local stakeholders (national and local governments, private sector and local civil society organizations) and relevant initiatives to establish multistakeholder collaborations/PPPs to bundle efforts around strengthening the institutional environment and empowering local communities to address the root causes of child labour.
- guiding DISCO signatories to available existing subsidies that can be used to address child labour in company supply chains
- share best practices and lessons learned from existing projects on child labour within programs/subsidies to identify which approaches work and can be upscaled
- reports on efforts made to support the industry in reaching its DISCO ambitions around child labour

3. Detailed guidance for implementing actions by DISCO signatories

This chapter presents the different actions that DISCO signatories need to take to contribute to ending child labour, including guidance on how to implement this action.

The actions described in this chapter are:

1. Determine the current deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation system
2. Develop plans for rolling out of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems.
3. Strengthen the institutional environment and empower local communities aimed at preventing and eradicating child labour
4. Reporting on progress

3.1 Determine current deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems

This section aims to provide information on what different types of DISCO signatories can do to determine the current deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems in their supply chains. This is followed by a guidance on definitions of such systems, as well as minimum requirements of systems that can be counted.

DISCO partners have agreed in the main DISCO partnership document:

“In 2020 DISCO signatories determine their current deployment level for these systems [prevention, monitoring and remediation systems] in their supply chain (...)”

3.1.1 Guidance for determining current level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems

Many DISCO signatories already implement, directly or indirectly, CLMRS systems in their supply chains. According to the operational definition proposed by ICI², a Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System must be able to do the following core activities:

1. **Raise awareness** on child labour and resulting harm amongst farmers, children and the wider community.
2. **Identify children** in child labour through an active monitoring process, using a standardized set of data collection tools.
3. **Provide support** to children in child labour and document the corrective action provided. Such support can also focus on prevention of child labour.
4. **Follow-up with children** identified in child labour and continue to monitor their status on a regular basis until they have stopped engaging in child labour and are no longer considered at risk.

The Child Labour Working Group recognises that “deployment” or “implementation” of any component of such a system by an organisation can be done directly by the organisation itself or its suppliers, or indirectly by building capacity among local communities or by supporting local public actors.

1. Minimum requirements of volume that can be counted:

² ICI benchmarking study: Overview and definition of child labour monitoring systems
https://cocoainitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ICI-CLMRS-Effectiveness-Review_EN.pdf

- a. Rainforest Alliance certified according to the 2020 Sustainable Agriculture Standard, including an Assess & Address system, as well as volumes currently certified under UTZ or the old RA standard that will be certified under the new standard this year.
- b. Non-RA certified, but covered by a CLMRS, with the following minimum aspects:
 - i. **Awareness raising** on child labour and resulting harm amongst farmers, children and the wider community.
 - ii. **Monitoring & identification:** identification of child labour through an active monitoring process, using a standardized set of data collection tools.
 - iii. **Provision of support:** to children in child labour and document the corrective action provided. Such support can also focus on prevention of child labour.
 - iv. **Follow-up** of children identified in child labour and continue to monitor their status on a regular basis until they have stopped engaging in child labour and are no longer considered at risk.

Where the above aspects are sufficiently covered by public services or NGOs, such as child protection or social services, active implementation by companies may not be needed. This should be confirmed through a risk assessment as part of a Due Diligence process (see section 3.2.2)

2. Determining cocoa bean equivalent volume covered (by type of system and by origin) and current progress towards the DISCO target:
 - a. For RA certified cocoa, certified volumes purchased from certified farmer organisations during the most recent completed crop can be counted.
 - b. For other CLMRS, volumes purchased from farmers during the most recent completed crop, whose households are covered by a CLMRS.
 - i. A child or household can be considered “covered” by a system when the risk of child labour has been assessed AND support and follow-up is available for those identified at risk
 - ii. When assessing risk, the method of risk assessment, geographic scope, results and action taken should be documented and decisions justified. Actions taken should be proportional to risk.
 - iii. In contexts with a high risk of child labour (ie. GHA and CIV with 50% child labour prevalence among cocoa households) household level risk assessment is preferable to community-level.
 - c. Sharing of tonnage information
 - d. To calculate the current % of progress towards the DISCO target, see section 2.4.2 Reporting methodology
 - e. Manufacturers and retailers who buy products instead of cocoa beans can:
 - i. Collaborate with their suppliers to determine the quantity of product volumes derived from cocoa beans covered as defined in #1.
 - ii. Use standard conversion rates to cocoa bean equivalent as determined by ICCO

3.2 Develop plans for rolling out child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems

This section aims to provide information on what different types of DISCO signatories can do to develop plans for roll out the current deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems in their supply chains. This is followed by a guidance on how to link the roll out of these systems with the six steps of OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct.

DISCO partners have agreed in the main DISCO partnership document:

“Stepwise and timebound plans for expanding the deployment of systems for child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation (...) will be implemented:

- *In 2020 DISCO signatories (...) develop plans towards 100% deployment of prevention, monitoring and remediation systems by 2025;*
- *Private sector partners will work towards scaling up of prevention, monitoring and remediation systems for child labour with specific timebound check points:*
 - *100% coverage of the cocoa bean volume required to meet the annual Dutch consumption of chocolate and other products with >5% cocoa content by 2023;*
 - *50% coverage for the cocoa bean volume required to meet the annual consumption of chocolate and other cocoa products in nearby EU markets by 2022 and 100% in 2025;*
 - *50% coverage for the cocoa bean volume required to meet the annual Dutch exports of cocoa and cocoa-based products to other export markets by 2023 and 100% in 2025.”*

3.2.1 Guidance for rolling out child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems

DISCO companies will follow the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct. Traders and processors are expected to directly implement actions, and larger and smaller manufacturers and retailers through their suppliers. Companies are expected to follow a due diligence process consisting of following stages:

1. Embed responsible business conduct into policies and management systems. Adopt policies to prevent, monitor and remediate child labour and develop a roadmap for 100% supply chain coverage of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems by 2025
2. Identify and assess actual and potential adverse impacts. Define the approach for child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation system (CLMRS, community-based, risk-based, etc.). A company can select an approach depending on resources available (e.g. level of traceability, monitoring agents) meeting ICI CLMRS benchmarking study criteria. Through the roll out of the system, child labour cases and root causes will be identified.
3. Cease, prevent and mitigate adverse impacts. Use the findings of the monitoring to develop plans to prevent and remediate child labour including activities, timelines, necessary resources, and potential partners.
4. Track implementation and results. Establish an M&E system to collect data and report based on selected approach for system
5. Communicate how impacts are addressed. Publish information and be transparent about the measures and progress of the system, including their effectiveness.
6. Provide for or cooperate in remediation when appropriate. Develop action plan to manage system collaborating with Government, NGOs, and other supply chain actors.

In addition, DISCO signatories develop, in collaboration with local authorities and development actors on the ground, operationalization guidance for the vision of scaling up child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems (see for more information section 3.3).

Scaling up CLMRS can be costly for companies since it involves a regular monitoring of thousands of farmers in a supply chain, as well as implementing remediation and prevention activities covering many cocoa-growing communities. For this reason, assessments are being carried out in the sector, such as ICI Effectiveness Review, to identify ways of improving the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of CLMRS,

as a means of supporting ongoing efforts to scale them up. There is also a need for cost and responsibility sharing, including joint implementation of activities among different actors in the supply chain and working together with the government and civil society organizations.

3.3 Joint efforts to strengthen the institutional environment and empower local communities aimed at preventing and eradicating child labour

This section aims to provide information on what DISCO signatories can do to engage with national and local governments and civil society in the sourcing/production countries on joint efforts to strengthen the institutional environment and empower local communities aimed at preventing and eradicating child labour. It also provides a guidance with steps to take to engage with local stakeholders to address efforts to eradicate child labour.

DISCO partners have agreed in the main DISCO partnership document:

“Signatories will intensify their cooperation with counterpart organisations in the sourcing countries to strengthen the institutional environment and empower local communities aimed at preventing and eradicating child labour.”

3.3.1 Guidance for rolling out child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems Rationale for strengthening the institutional environment and empower local communities

Considering the nature of child labour in cocoa, it is essential to complement monitoring and law enforcement with a bigger emphasis on prevention, focusing on the root causes of child labour.³ Evidence shows that multiple interventions, including education, child protection, income enhancement (including fair pricing), and other health and social services, implemented in a coordinated fashion at the community level, led to the most significant reduction in child labour and particularly hazardous work in cocoa in Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire.⁴ Supply chains can be an entry point, but efforts must be area based to avoid displacing children into other sectors or forms of child labour.

Access to quality inclusive education, social protection, water and sanitation, birth registration and ending household economic dependency on child labour is key. This requires building systems and strengthening the capacity of public institutions through a comprehensive multi actor approach in which national and decentralized government actors need to play a central role. Companies cannot replace governments in producing countries in fulfilling these essential duties of the State. In order for interventions to be sustainable, it is key that companies’ measures to address child labour leverage public services and enhance their implementation,⁵ while avoiding the creation of parallel private systems that supplant or duplicate the state.

Aligning private sector actions with governments priorities

Industry’s efforts should be aligned with nationally determined policies and programmes (including National Action Plans on child labour prevention and elimination), keep in focus the root causes of child labour and the value of preventive approaches, and support strengthening government capacity to protect children.

In order to align private sector action with government’s approaches working sessions will be organized with the aim of initiating an open discussion on ideas, interests, needs and constraints of both business and government, and to look for possible actions that can be taken to strengthen each other’s activities and interventions, and to work together towards a shared vision of how to protect children.

Steps towards aligning private sector actions with strengthening the institutional environment

In order to align private sector action with country owned and driven plans and policies, DISCO partners, where possible in collaboration with other ISCO platforms, will take the following steps:

³ *Ending child labour, forced labour and human trafficking in global supply chains*: ILO, OECD, IOM and UNICEF, 2019

⁴ Child labour is increasingly being seen as a national development challenge requiring coordinated efforts. *Good practices and lessons learned on the elimination of child labour in Ghana - ECOWAS projects’ experiences / ILO, IPEC - Geneva*: ILO, 2015, p. 19

⁵ In close collaboration with governments, companies can make investments in education, social protection, WASH, birth registration, organization and empowerment of farmers and workers, formalization and other measures.

1. Mapping of the main multistakeholder initiatives / PPPs currently in place in production countries.
2. Organise working session(s) with the relevant government actors (supported by ILO, UNICEF and relevant multi-stakeholder organisation⁶ in origin countries, e.g. Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana), to have an open conversation with DISCO signatories (e.g. company and civil society members on the ground). Local government (in origin countries, e.g. Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana) can present where they are, what their vision is, and how DISCO can contribute to strengthening local dynamics. Companies can voice their concerns, conditions, etc. The working session(s) should result in developing/formulating possible joint efforts/interventions contributing to strengthening relevant national systems.
3. Based on the information gathered, have a follow-up session to develop a vision on how DISCO partners can best support strengthening government capacity to protect children. Explore ways companies and other stakeholders could support such vision and define possible "fair share" criteria (e.g. based on volume exported, farmers footprint, etc.)
4. Develop a concrete action plan to support efforts happening in origin countries with a view to developing implementation modalities for such joint interventions through area based approaches in priority geographies.

One of the key elements to be addressed during the working sessions could be the discussion about how the "CLMRS" (or equivalent systems) could be implemented supporting local actors. The working sessions can be used to understand companies' needs and constraints, as well as the local government's approach. This may include mapping out the key steps from community awareness raising, setting up of child protection committees, etc. and for each of them understand what task could be performed by whom (e.g. social workers could provide community awareness raising and be supported by companies, etc.).

Another element could be to present the needs assessment developed in support of the (currently discussed) PPP and explain the interventions expected to address the root causes of child labour, including birth registration, access to quality education and professional training, social protection measures (like universal health insurance, finance literacy trainings, village savings and loans associations, etc.), etc. The working session could offer an opportunity to explore how companies could support such vision both through funding and through their operations.

⁶ see recommendations from the latest EC report: https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/executivesummary_childlabour_report_20210617_en.pdf

3.4 Report on progress

This section aims to provide information how DISCO signatories can report on the progress made towards reaching the ambitions on ending child labour. It provides a set of indicators that will be used for the 2021 baseline reporting and annual progress reporting.

DISCO partners have agreed in the main DISCO partnership document:

“(...) an annual reporting on incidences of child labour, remediation and mitigation will be implemented. (...) Yearly reports will include indicators on the progress and impact of the actions for improvement for the lives of children and their families on the ground.”

Reporting indicators

Details on reporting will be further described in the DISCO Baseline Reporting Framework for the baseline reporting and for annual reporting through a separate Monitoring & Reporting Framework (still to be developed). This entails the objectives and rationale for reporting, detailed questionnaires per subsector, reporting methodologies and processes, including timelines. It is therefore recommended to consult the other documents for more details on reporting.

The indicators to use for baseline and/or progress reporting are linked to the more specified actions as described in this Roadmap and are as follows. It is acknowledged by the working group that additional indicators to measure impact towards ending child labour still needs to be developed (see section 4.3).

Action 3.1 Percentage of supply chain that is covered by a child labour monitoring and remediation system

- # and % of cocoa bean in equivalents in supply chain covered by a CLMRS

General

- Contributions in expertise, knowledge development, local stakeholder engagement and/or other to support to the partnership in reaching goals around ending addressing child labour in company supply chains

4. Recommendations for follow up

This section describes the recommendations given by the Working Group on what needs to be further developed after the finalization of this Roadmap. This could be done within DISCO, or in collaboration with other initiatives such as Beyond Chocolate, GISCO, SWISSCO.

4.1 Learning, innovation and capacity building

We propose to continue after this roadmap to progress on a common learning agenda with common learning questions that can help inform DISCO strategies towards ending child labour. Specific topics need to be further defined, although creating an understanding of the connection between living income and child labour is already envisioned as a first topic.

Also, the working group proposes to identify the needs for capacity building around child labour within the partnership that should lead to organizing learning events. These needs have to be further identified within the partnership and can be taken up in combination with the Fund against Child Labour (FBK) programme.

4.2 Increase effectiveness and efficiency of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems

DISCO partners have agreed in the main DISCO partnership document: *“We will support efforts to further enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of CLMRS deployment or similar initiatives.”*

CLMRS is generally accepted tool within the cocoa sector allowing to detect and address child labour at farm household level. However, challenges remain in the areas of scalability and global applicability (developed for West-African smallholder context). More research is needed on the effectiveness of the system also in other contexts, its child centeredness within its child protection framework and its linkage to government child protection and national referral systems.

The issues in child labor are so complex, that it is doubtful that a company run CLMRS is going to solve the issue of child labour in agriculture and is the long term sustainable solution for the issue. Therefore, prevention and cross sectoral multi stakeholder collaboration should be sought and promoted. Private sector partners should follow a child labour due diligence process to ensure that they have the systems in place to assess and address child labour throughout their operations and supply chains. CLMRS herein could be one of the verification and remediation tools, as part of the larger due diligence process.

A possible following next step is to further help promote these collaborations and work towards a successful framework for action between governments, civil society and industry to agree on responsibilities and accountability of the different stakeholders involved. The partnership can further enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of CLMRS deployment or similar initiatives in collaboration with ICI and other ISCOs, particularly on the above-mentioned issues.

4.3 Develop indicators to measure progress at impact level

The working group acknowledges that the current set of indicators only provide information at outcome level on the current deployment level of child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation systems and general efforts made by DISCO signatories on collaborating with local governments to address child labour. Therefore, the working group recommends that additional indicators to measure impact towards ending child labour (taking both the direct and indirect supply chains into account) still needs to be developed in a following phase.

4.4 Benchmarking of cocoa sustainability programs or certification schemes in relation to DISCO commitments on child labour

As actors further downstream the supply chain (e.g. smaller manufacturers and retailers) mainly play a role by purchasing sustainable cocoa-based products from cocoa sustainability programs or certification schemes, it is recommended to provide more information on the extent these programs and schemes are meeting the commitments made in DISCO. Additional information should be provided and could be done in collaboration with an ongoing benchmarking study by the other European initiatives on

sustainable cocoa in which they have commissioned the International Trade Centre (ITC) to benchmark sustainability schemes, against their objectives.



DISCO

DUTCH INITIATIVE ON
SUSTAINABLE COCOA