

Beyond Chocolate

Annual Report 2021



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Summary

About Beyond Chocolate

Beyond Chocolate is the Belgian multi-stakeholder initiative for a sustainable chocolate industry. The partnership, bringing together a wide coalition of organizations, is funded by Belgian Development Cooperation and managed by IDH, The Sustainable Trade Initiative. Partners in the initiative are working to make long-lasting improvements to the living conditions of cocoa farmers and their families in the cocoa growing regions that are relevant to the Belgian industry. The partnership intends to support cocoa growing communities in their development, ensure access to education for their children, and promote the sustainable use of natural resources.





COMMITMENTS

Concretely, the partnership's commitments are the following:



By 2025 at the latest

- ✓ All the chocolate produced and/or sold in Belgium shall comply with a relevant certification standards and/ corporate sustainability scheme.
- ✓ Beyond Chocolate partners shall comply with applicable agreements between governments and companies in the regions included in the Cocoa & Forests Initiative.

By 2030 at the latest

- ✓ Cocoa growers supplying to the Belgian market will earn at least a living income.
- ✓ Deforestation due to cocoa growing for the Belgian chocolate sector has ended.

VISION

Beyond Chocolate creates an enabling environment that empowers all stakeholders to take additional action towards a more sustainable cocoa value chain. Collaborative action and the sharing of responsibility across the public and private sectors will increase the impact of the partnership's joint effort, fostering synergies that go beyond the sum of individual contributions.





2021 MONITORING RESULTS

Beyond Chocolate partners are reporting annually on their progress vis-à-vis the partnership's goals. The 2021 reporting reveals that while Beyond Chocolate signatories are taking valuable steps, progress needs to accelerate for the partnership to reach the long-term living income and deforestation goals.



65% of the chocolate produced in Belgium is now covered by a certification scheme or corporate sustainability scheme, an 8% increase compared to 2020.

In 2018, only 42% of the chocolate produced in Belgium was certified or covered by a corporate sustainability scheme. This progress shows Beyond Chocolate partners are increasingly promoting and buying into the existing sustainability solutions that are available on the market. However, this positive trend needs to accelerate for Beyond Chocolate to reach its target of 100% certification/corporate sustainability scheme coverage by 2025.



There is a positive evolution in the Belgian market towards origin transparency with 57% of cocoa sourcing for chocolate produced in Belgium traceable at farm level, a 15% increase compared to the previous year.

Cocoa supply chains can be very complex with batches of cocoa being mixed during the shipping and manufacturing processes. However, transparency and traceability are crucial prerequisites to deliver on commitments related to zero deforestation and living incomes. The progress made in 2021 shows that Beyond Chocolate partners are continuing their positive trend towards increased transparency in the sector.



Partners are increasingly adopting innovative approaches, often containing interventions to complement farmgate prices for cocoa, to improve household incomes of cocoa farmers in their supply chains. Initial results shared by four partners provide interesting insights and knowledge on the effectiveness of these approaches.

However, it should be noted that only a limited number of farmers are today benefitting from these innovative approaches aiming at going beyond the business as usual. Most partners are still struggling to get a clear picture of the living income gaps in their supply chain. Available data shows that farmers in West-Africa are still far from earning a living income.



THE BEYOND CHOCOLATE CO-FINANCING FUND

Under Beyond Chocolate a co-financing fund of 2 million euros was made available by Belgian Development Cooperation for sustainability projects in cocoa. This fund is an engine for change, allowing to test scalable high impact models, triggering investments for sustainable production, and bringing new sustainable products to the Belgian market. 8 sustainability projects were approved for co-financing in 2020 and first outcomes and lessons are reported for 2021.

THE BEYOND CHOCOLATE EXTERNAL EVALUATION

To unlock the next round of financing by the Belgian Development Cooperation, the Beyond Chocolate program underwent an external evaluation, which was executed by the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT).

The objective was to review the evolution of the Beyond Chocolate partnership since its launch and to assess to what extent the partnership has supported signatories in achieving the common objectives. The KIT concluded that Beyond Chocolate has been successful in reaching most of the results and outcomes outlined at the start of the program and therefore that the first phase can be seen as a general success. The evaluation also outlines a series of recommendations to reinforce the partnership in the future. An extensive summary of the evaluation report and IDH management response can be found in Annex 1.

Following this positive evaluation, the Beyond Chocolate program was officially renewed by Belgian Development Cooperation until the end of 2025, IDH remaining the coordinating organization.

An estimated 70.000 farming households have been reached additionally since the start of the Beyond Chocolate program in 2018 through certification & corporate sustainability schemes.

- Beyond Chocolate Evaluation, 2021



Accountability	Results	Outcomes	Target reached?
What IDH is accountable for	Result 1: Uniting and supporting the Belgian cocoa industry	1. The steering committee of the Beyond Chocolate partnership has been formed and is giving direction to the programme in accordance with its mandate and the required timetable.	Yes
		2. The number of signatory partners of the Beyond Chocolate Partnership has remained stable or increased compared to the number on 5 December 2018.	Yes
		3. The progress of the Beyond Chocolate partnership in terms of sustainability and operational is monitored annually and communicated to the public.	Yes
		4. At least two annual Beyond Chocolate working groups are organized and attended by a majority of Beyond Chocolate partner organizations.	Yes
	Result 2: Improving the effectiveness/efficiency of sustainability initiatives within the Belgian chocolate sector	5. The first call for proposals has been successfully implemented and the project partners of 3 to 5 co-financed projects have signed a contract.	Yes
		6. 67% of the co-financing is taken up by project partners.	Yes
		7. The objective of a living income for cocoa producers is included in the projects.	Yes
		8. The projects are adequately monitored. There will also be a report on the progress of the projects and the first lessons will be shared within Beyond Chocolate.	Yes
What IDH holds partners accountable for	Achievement at impact level	9. The volume of chocolate produced and/or sold in Belgium and covered by a sustainability programme or certification standard has increased from 46% (2018) to more than 60% (2021).	On track
		10. Beyond chocolate partners (in particular the cocoa traders and cocoa processing companies) are fully aware of the agreements made within the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI) and have drawn up an equivalent plan for action.	Partially
		11. More than 75,000 small-scale cocoa producers are reached through the Beyond Chocolate co-financed projects and other sustainability initiatives within the market.	On track
		12. Beyond Chocolate's partners have launched new chocolate products that raise the bar in terms of sustainability and create a new dynamic in the market.	Yes

Summary French

A propos de Beyond Chocolate

Beyond Chocolate est l'initiative belge multi-acteurs pour un secteur du chocolat durable. Ce partenariat, qui rassemble une large coalition d'organisations, est financé par la Coopération belge au développement et facilité par IDH, The Sustainable Trade Initiative. Les partenaires de l'initiative s'engagent à améliorer durablement les conditions de vie des producteurs de cacao et de leurs familles dans les régions cacaoyères concernées par l'industrie belge. Le partenariat entend soutenir les communautés productrices de cacao dans leur développement, assurer l'accès à l'éducation de leurs enfants et promouvoir l'utilisation durable des ressources naturelles.





ENGAGEMENTS

Concrètement, les engagements du partenariat sont les suivants :



D'ici 2025 au plus tard

- ✓ Tout le chocolat produit et/ou vendu en Belgique doit être conforme à des normes de certification et/ou être couvert par un programme de durabilité d'entreprise.
- ✓ Les partenaires de Beyond Chocolate respectent les accords applicables entre les gouvernements et les entreprises dans les régions couverts par l'initiative Cacao et Forêts.

D'ici 2030 au plus tard

- ✓ Les producteurs de cacao qui approvisionnent le marché belge gagnent au moins un revenu vital.
- ✓ La déforestation due à la culture du cacao pour le secteur du chocolat belge a pris fin.

VISION

Beyond Chocolate crée un environnement favorable au partenariat dans la sphère pré-compétitive, ce qui permet aux parties prenantes de prendre des mesures supplémentaires en faveur d'une chaîne de valeur du cacao plus durable. L'action collaborative et le partage des responsabilités entre les secteurs public et privé augmenteront l'impact de l'effort conjoint du partenariat, en favorisant des synergies qui vont au-delà de la somme des contributions individuelles.



RESULTATS 2021

Les partenaires de Beyond Chocolate rendent compte chaque année de leurs progrès par rapport aux objectifs du partenariat. Le rapport 2021 révèle que même si les signataires de Beyond Chocolate prennent des mesures importantes, le progrès doit s'accélérer pour que le partenariat atteigne les objectifs à long terme en matière de revenu vital et de déforestation.



65% du chocolat produit en Belgique est désormais certifié et/ou couvert par un programme de durabilité d'entreprise, soit une augmentation de 8% par rapport à 2020.

En 2018, seulement 42% du chocolat produit en Belgique était certifié ou couvert par un programme de durabilité d'entreprise. Cette progression montre que les partenaires de Beyond Chocolate promeuvent et implémentent de plus en plus souvent les solutions de durabilité qui sont disponibles sur le marché. Cette tendance positive devra toutefois s'accélérer pour permettre à Beyond Chocolate d'atteindre son objectif de 100 % de certification/ de couverture par un programme de durabilité d'entreprise d'ici 2025.



Le marché belge investit dans une plus grande transparence. 57% de l'approvisionnement en cacao provient de fermes répertoriées et cartographiées.

Les chaînes d'approvisionnement en cacao peuvent être très complexes, les lots de cacao étant mélangés pendant les processus d'expédition et de fabrication. La transparence et la traçabilité sont des conditions préalables cruciales pour tenir les engagements liés à la déforestation et aux revenus de subsistance. Les progrès réalisés en 2021 montrent que les partenaires de Beyond Chocolate poursuivent leurs investissements vers une transparence accrue dans le secteur.



Plus de partenaires adoptent des approches innovantes, contenant des interventions pour sécuriser des prix plus élevés aux cacaoculteurs, afin d'améliorer les revenus des ménages des cacaoculteurs dans leurs chaînes d'approvisionnement. Les premiers résultats partagés par quatre partenaires fournissent des indications et des connaissances intéressantes sur l'efficacité de ces approches.

Toutefois, il convient de noter que seulement un nombre limité d'agriculteurs bénéficient aujourd'hui de ces approches novatrices visant à aller au-delà du *business as usual*. La plupart des partenaires ont encore du mal à se faire une idée précise du niveau de revenu des planteurs dans leur chaîne d'approvisionnement. Les données publiquement disponibles montrent que les agriculteurs d'Afrique de l'Ouest sont encore loin de gagner décemment leur vie.



LE FOND DE COFINANCEMENT BEYOND CHOCOLATE

Dans le cadre de Beyond Chocolate, un fonds de cofinancement de 2 millions d'euros a été mis à disposition par la Coopération belge au développement pour des projets de durabilité dans le domaine du cacao. Ce fonds est un moteur de changement, permettant de tester des modèles à fort impact, de débloquent des investissements supplémentaires pour une production durable et de mettre de nouveaux produits durables sur le marché belge. Huit projets ont été approuvés pour le co-financement en 2021 et les premiers résultats et enseignements tirés sont rapportés pour 2021.

L'ÉVALUATION EXTERNE DE BEYOND CHOCOLATE

Pour débloquent le prochain cycle de financement du partenariat par la Coopération belge au développement, Beyond Chocolate a fait l'objet d'une évaluation externe, réalisée par le Royal Tropical Institute (KIT).

L'objectif était d'examiner l'évolution du partenariat Beyond Chocolate depuis son lancement et d'évaluer dans quelle mesure le partenariat a aidé les signataires à atteindre les objectifs communs. Le KIT a conclu que Beyond Chocolate a réussi à atteindre la plupart des résultats et des effets décrits au début du programme et que la première phase peut donc être considérée comme un succès. L'étude détaille également des points d'amélioration qui permettront de renforcer le partenariat. Un résumé détaillé du rapport d'évaluation et de la *management response* de l'IDH se trouve à l'annexe 1.

Suite à l'évaluation positive, le financement de Beyond Chocolate a été officiellement renouvelé par la Coopération belge au développement jusqu'à la fin de 2025, IDH restant l'organisation coordinatrice.



Il est estimé que 70.000 familles de producteurs de cacao ont été touchées depuis le début du Programme Beyond Chocolate en 2018 par le biais de la certification et des programmes de durabilité des entreprises.

- Évaluation du Programme Beyond Chocolate, 2021



Responsabilité	Résultats	Outcomes	Objectif atteint
Ce dont IDH est responsable	Résultat 1: Unir et soutenir l'industrie belge du cacao	1. Le comité de pilotage du partenariat Beyond Chocolate a été formé et donne des orientations au programme conformément à son mandat et au calendrier requis.	Oui
		2. Le nombre de signataires du partenariat Beyond Chocolate est resté stable ou a augmenté par rapport au nombre au 5 décembre 2018.	Oui
		3. Le progrès du partenariat Beyond Chocolate en termes de durabilité est suivi annuellement et communiqué au public.	Oui
		4. Au moins deux groupes de travail annuels "Beyond Chocolate" sont organisés et suivis par une majorité de signataires.	Oui
	Résultat 2 : Amélioration de l'efficacité des initiatives de durabilité dans le secteur belge du chocolat	5. Le premier appel à propositions a été mis en œuvre avec succès et les partenaires de 3 à 5 projets cofinancés ont signé un contrat.	Oui
		6. 67% du cofinancement est pris en charge par les partenaires du projet.	Oui
		7. L'objectif d'un revenu vital pour les producteurs de cacao est inclus dans les projets.	Oui
		8. Les projets font l'objet d'un suivi adéquat. Il y aura également un rapport sur l'avancement des projets et les premières leçons seront partagées entre signataires.	Oui
Ce dont IDH tient les partenaires responsables	Résultats au niveau de l'impact	9. Le volume de chocolat produit et/ou vendu en Belgique et couvert par un programme de durabilité ou une norme de certification durable est passé de 46% (2018) à plus de 60% (2021).	En cours
		10. Les partenaires de Beyond Chocolate (en particulier les négociants en cacao et les entreprises de transformation du cacao) sont pleinement conscients des accords conclus dans le cadre de l'initiative Cacao et Forêts (CFI) et ont élaboré un plan d'action équivalent.	Partiellement
		11. Plus de 75 000 petits producteurs de cacao sont touchés par les projets cofinancés et d'autres initiatives de durabilité sur le marché.	En cours
		12. Les partenaires de Beyond Chocolate ont lancé de nouveaux produits chocolatés qui mettent la barre plus haut en termes de durabilité et créent une nouvelle dynamique sur le marché.	Oui



INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Dear partners,

Beyond Chocolate is creating change on the Belgian market. That has been confirmed by the external evaluation of our partnership commissioned by DGD and executed by KIT at the end of 2021. This is great news, as it confirms the relevance of our collaborative platform. As partners, we should all be proud of this recognition.

The 2021 data show that we are moving forward towards our targets. Certification and company schemes are gaining traction and the sector is investing in more origin transparency. It is a pleasure to witness the valuable pre-competitive discussions and innovative sustainability approaches that have sprung from the partnership.

However, we still have a long way to go. We are not working in the easiest of circumstances. The economic crisis we're facing is having a huge impact on chocolate companies, and even more so on cocoa farmers. The cost of living, production, transport, and energy having grown, many farmers are one step further away from reaching a living income. This problematic only reinforces the *raison d'être* of Beyond Chocolate. I am therefore calling on all of you to continue to invest in cocoa sustainability. Only if we jointly accelerate our efforts, can we reach our end goals.

I am happy to announce that Belgian Minister of Development Cooperation, Mrs. Meryame Kitir, has decided to renew the Beyond Chocolate program until 2025. This renewal allows us to continue building that positive dynamic.

As such, we will focus on reinforcing a safe pre-competitive space where we do not shy away from more complex and sensitive discussions, such as purchasing practices that enable living incomes. We will also continue to work together with the Dutch, Swiss, German and recently founded French Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa to bring knowledge exchange to a next level, create efficiencies and accelerate efforts.

Between, today and 2025, we will also invest an additional 1.5 million euros of public funding in a new round of pilot projects focused on enabling a living income for cocoa farmers. These projects together with the 8 running projects will help us test sustainable business cases and thus create impact.

I would like to thank you all for your efforts this past year. Let's accelerate these efforts over the next years so we can ensure Belgian chocolate is a product to truly be proud of.



In collaboration,

Philippe de Selliers
Chairman Beyond Chocolate





2

Stakeholder Overview

The Beyond Chocolate partnership continues to grow year after year. In 2021, Natra, Klingele, International Cocoa Initiative (ICI), CERA-BRS and Cocosource joined the partnership. Early 2022, Leonidas, Chocolatoa, and Envirium Life Science also signed. Each of these companies has committed to contributing in a meaningful way to the partnership's goals. Beyond Chocolate will support these partners in delivering on their commitments and will continue to work on attracting new signatories, thus enlarging its scope and impact.

In case you are interested in joining the partnership, don't hesitate to contact the program management.





PUBLIC SECTOR



RETAILERS



CHOCOLATE SECTOR



CERTIFICATION STANDARDS



NGOs



KNOWLEDGE INSTITUTIONS



SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTORS



OTHERS



TRADE UNIONS





3

Monitoring Results

Beyond Chocolate partners have committed to contribute to the joint objectives of the partnership. To increase trust amongst partners and the level of transparency in the sector, signatories are reporting annually on their individual progress vis-à-vis the partnership's goals. For this purpose, an accountability, monitoring, and evaluation framework was developed in consultation with partners. This framework is aligned as much as possible with that of the other existing National Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa in Europe (ISCOs). While the monitoring remains a work of constant improvement, the 2021 aggregated data already allow to draw useful conclusions on the progress of the partnership and to identify necessary action points.



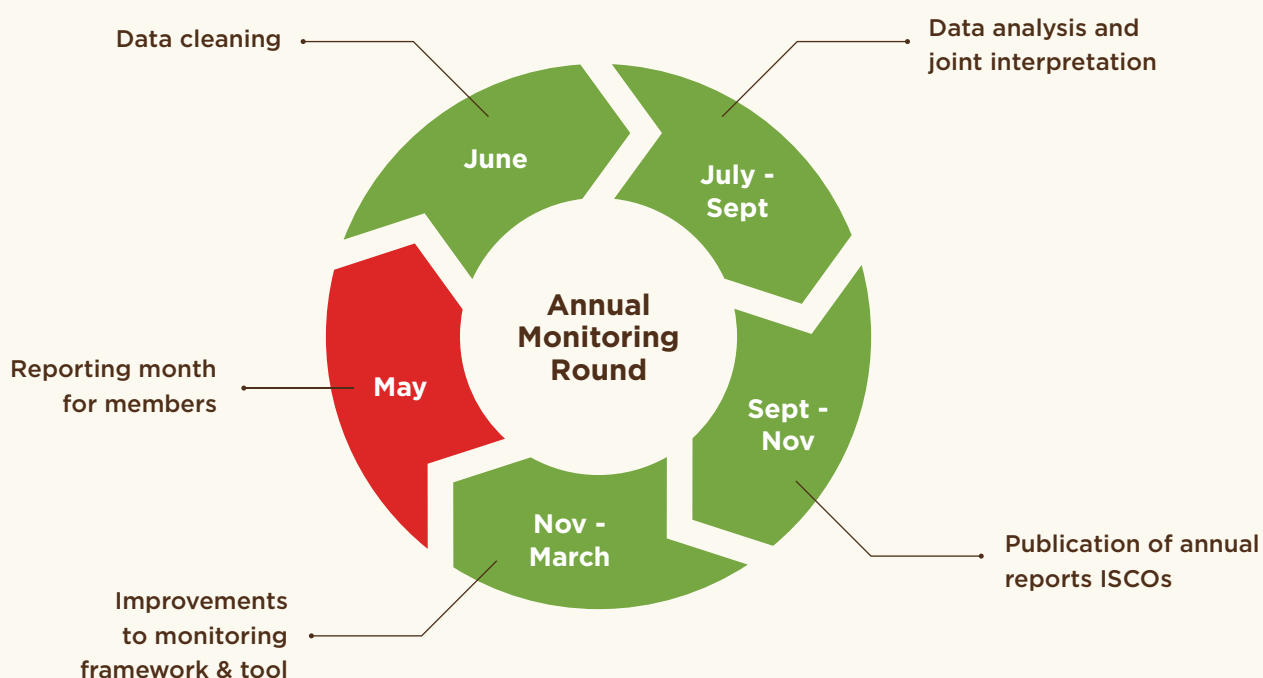
3.1 Context: A Harmonized Monitoring Framework

In June 2020, Beyond Chocolate, the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (GISCO) and the Swiss Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (SWISSCO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which the Dutch Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (DISCO) joined in January 2021. The MoU documented the ambition of the ISCOs to harmonize their monitoring frameworks. Previously, stakeholders that were part of multiple of the initiatives were requested to report at different moments in time and for each platform separately on different sets of indicators. Since the signing of the MoU, the four initiatives have harmonized indicators as much as possible and continue to look for optimization.



In 2020, Beyond Chocolate and GISCO partners completed a first joint online monitoring exercise. In 2021, DISCO joined the effort. SWISSCO did not yet participate in the joint monitoring exercise but is actively involved in the further development of both the monitoring framework as well as the online reporting tool and has expressed the intention to join in a next phase. The improvement of both the framework as well as the tool will be a continuous effort of the ISCO secretariats and of the ISCO monitoring working group.

The ISCOs have also synchronized their reporting timelines. Partners are asked to report each year in May, after which the secretariats use the summer months to clean the data and make sense of the reporting together with partners. Once the annual reports are published in fall, the ISCO Monitoring working group again reviews the monitoring framework and tool with the aim of improving the accountability systems





The European Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa (ISCO's)



GISCO

German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa
June 2012



SWISSCO

Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa
January 2018



Beyond Chocolate

Partnership for a more sustainable Belgian cocoa sector
December 2018



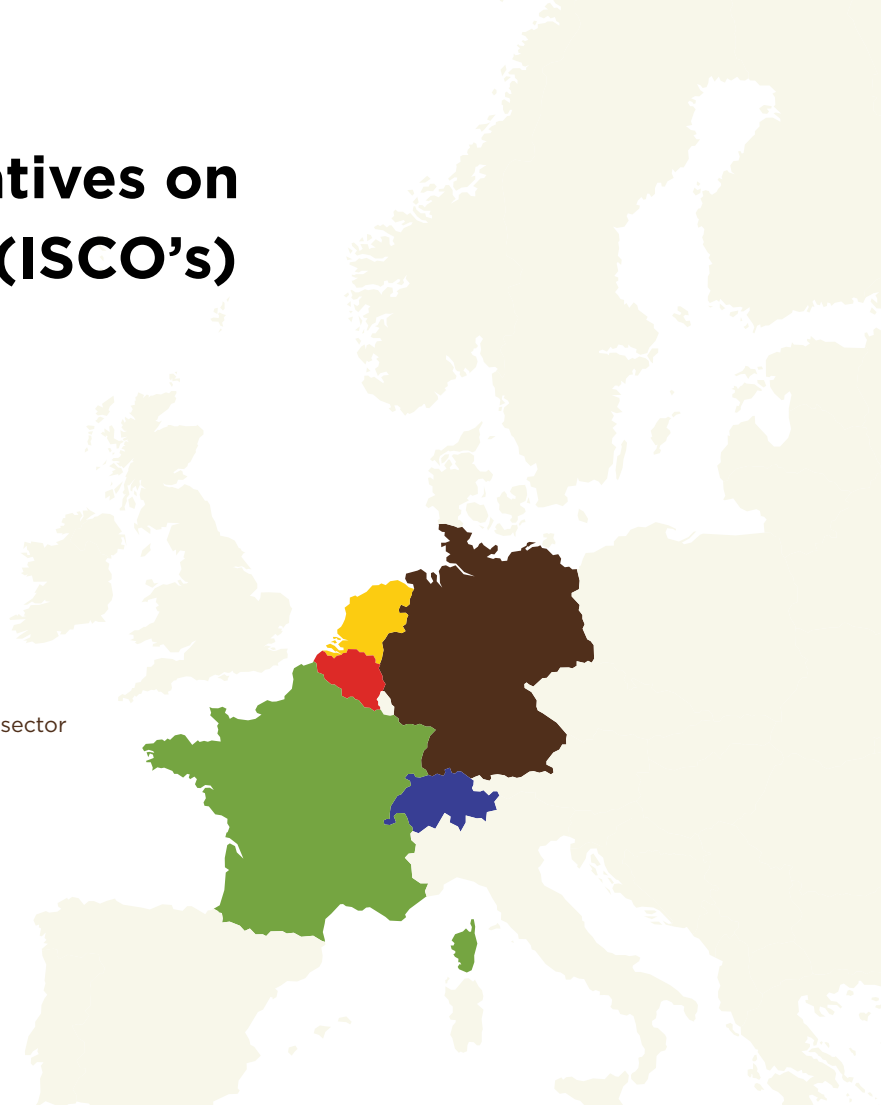
DISCO

Dutch Initiative for Sustainable Cocoa
August 2020



FRISCO

French Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa
May 2021



Over the past years, National Initiatives for Sustainable Cocoa (ISCO's) have been initiated in Belgium (Beyond Chocolate), the Netherlands (DISCO), Germany (GISCO), Switzerland (SWISSCO) and most recently France (FRISCO). Alignment across these national initiatives can reduce the burden for partners and increase the potential for impact at scale. Therefore, the ISCO's have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), documenting their collaboration and their common endeavor to realize a more sustainable cocoa sector. The initial MoU signed by Beyond Chocolate, SWISSCO and GISCO was joined by DISCO in January 2021 and by FRISCO in September 2022.

The ISCO's are now developing joint strategies to support signatories to address these challenges, organizing joint working groups and learning events, and co-commissioning relevant studies. By intensifying their collaboration, the ISCO's aim at eliminating redundancies and improving efficiencies, thereby responding to a critical demand from the stakeholders.

[Find out more on ISCO alignment](#)

The ISCO's have identified four common challenges:



Contribute to a living
income for cocoa farmers
and their families



Halt cocoa-related
deforestation and promote
sustainable reforestation
and biodiversity



End child labor and
forced labor in the
cocoa value chain



Enhance transparency in
the cocoa value chain



3.2 Beyond Chocolate 2021 Monitoring: Overall Commitments

3.2.1 Introduction

3.2.1.1 Reporting Partners

To cover the full scope of the partnership, i.e. all chocolate produced and/or consumed in Belgium, the 2021 data are divided into two groups: chocolate producers reported on the chocolate they produced in Belgium (B2B), while consumer brands and retailers reported on chocolate sold on the Belgian consumer market (B2C). For retailers, the reporting is at this stage limited to their private label brands.

Next to the market specific indicators, Beyond Chocolate also aims to monitor the impact of certification standards and corporate sustainability schemes recognized by the partnership.

In the previous year (2020 data), in terms of volumes, Beyond Chocolate signatories were only representing 40% of the Belgian chocolate consumer market. In 2022, a new category of signatories joined the reporting exercise: SME manufacturers such as Belvas, Galler, Guylian, Envirium Life Sciences, Libeert, Klingele, Neuhaus, Kim's Chocolate and Leonidas were now also required to report. As a result, an estimated 57% of the consumer market is now covered by Beyond Chocolate reporting signatories. Furthermore, new signatories such as Natra and Cocosource also joined the monitoring this year.

Partners were given the chance to give shape to the data analysis and interpretation in a dedicated working group session and by giving written feedback. Together, partners came to the below conclusions.

The following partners have reported on the overall Beyond Chocolate commitments for 2021:

PRODUCED IN BELGIUM

BARRY CALLEBAUT

Cargill **Puratos**
Reliable partners in innovation

TRADERS

COCOA SOURCE **ECOM**
SOURCE & DELIVER

Olam

CERTIFICATION

FAIRTRADE BELGIUM **RAINFOREST ALLIANCE**

SOLD IN BELGIUM

Large manufacturers

BARONIE **MARS**
BELGIAN CHOCOLATES
Mondelēz International **Natra**
Nestlé

Retail

ALDI **Carrefour**
COLRUYT GROUP
DELHAIZE **LIDL**

SME manufacturers

BELVAS **ENVIRIUM** **chocolaterie Galler** **GUYLIAN** **KIM'S**
BELGIAN CHOCOLATE LIFE SCIENCES Independent Belgian Chocolates
Klingele **Leonidas** **LIBEERT** **NEUHAUS** **TONY'S**
BELGIUM • 1857 CHOCOLONELY
OXFAM
Wereldwinkels



3.2.1.2 Nuances & Limitations

Please keep in mind the below nuances and limitations when reading the 2021 data analysis.

- Data shared in this report is presented at an aggregated level so as to comply with confidentiality and competition requirements.
- New reporting partners join Beyond Chocolate each year, which might lead to a certain degree of instability when comparing past and current aggregated results. This is particularly relevant when looking at the evolution of “chocolate sold in Belgium” (B2C), as this data is impacted by new companies joining.
- The data presented in this chapter are the data of reporting partners only and not of the entire Belgian market. In terms of volumes, for the “chocolate produced in Belgium” (B2B), over 90% of the market is covered by the reporting partners. At the level of “chocolate sold in Belgium” (B2C), an estimated 57% market is now covered by reporting signatories.
- The reporting on impact generated through certification and/or corporate sustainability schemes is not linked to the Belgian market specifically. Beyond Chocolate signatories reported on their global cocoa sustainability efforts.
- The data presented in this chapter are the result of voluntary self-reporting by partners.
- Data show there is a renewed market dynamism in Belgium in terms of sustainability, with more volumes being covered by certification or corporate sustainability schemes. While there are clear positive indications, it remains complex to measure the exact attribution to the Beyond Chocolate program.
- The Beyond Chocolate co-financed projects are not included in this monitoring tool. They follow a separate reporting cycle and report twice a year on their individual M&E framework. More information on the projects can be found in chapter 4.



3.2.2 Progress vis-à-vis the Beyond Chocolate 2025 target

By 2025, 100% of chocolate produced and/or sold in Belgium will be certified and/or covered by a corporate sustainability scheme.

While recognizing that current approaches are not sufficient to deliver on the long term objective of enabling living incomes for cocoa farmers, Beyond Chocolate considers certification and/or coverage by a corporate sustainability scheme to be a valuable first step. Chocolate producers who have signed the partnership have therefore committed to ensure that all the chocolate they produce in Belgium (B2B) is certified and/or covered by a corporate sustainability scheme by 2025. Signatory consumer brands have committed to the same for all chocolate sold in Belgium (B2C). Belgian retailers have jointly taken an additional individual commitment on their private label brands and have pledged to reach the goal of 100% certification already by the end of 2020.



Produced in Belgium

The 2021 data show that 65% of the chocolate produced in Belgium is now certified and/or covered by a corporate sustainability scheme, an 8% increase compared to last year. Since Barry Callebaut, Cargill and Puratos together account for over 90% of all chocolate produced in Belgium, the above number gives a clear view on the production of Belgian chocolate.

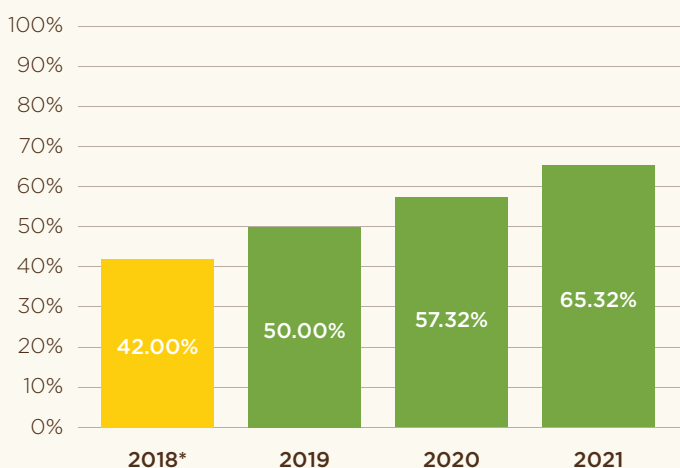
While the 8% increase shows that the Belgian chocolate industry is progressing year after year, an acceleration will be necessary to reach the 2025 commitment. After the publication of the 2020 annual report, the Steering Committee and monitoring working group developed a projection of the trajectory that companies need to make to reach the 2025 goal (see below). According to this projection, 72% of the chocolate produced in Belgium should already be certified and/or covered by a corporate sustainability scheme at this stage.

To ensure the 2025 target will be met, the supply of chocolate that is covered by certification and/or a corporate sustainability scheme needs to increase. The Beyond Chocolate secretariat will reach out to the partners to follow up on their individual action plans towards reaching the 2025 target.



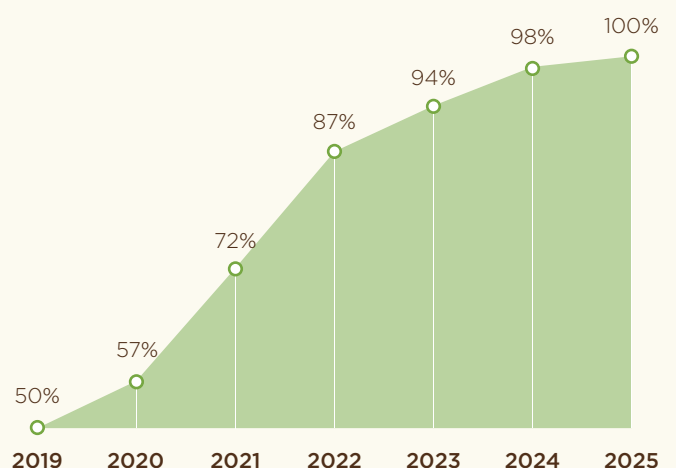
It is important to note that to increase the share of certified/corporate sustainability scheme (B2B) chocolate produced in Belgium, efforts need to be made on both the supply and the demand side. To further increase the demand for certified/corporate sustainability scheme covered chocolate sold in Belgium, the Secretariat will continue to reach out to new possible signatories.

Share of corporate program / certified cocoa in chocolate produced in Belgium (B2B)



*Data Choprabisco

Projection Evolution 2025 target on certification/company schemes





Sold in Belgium



Darrell High

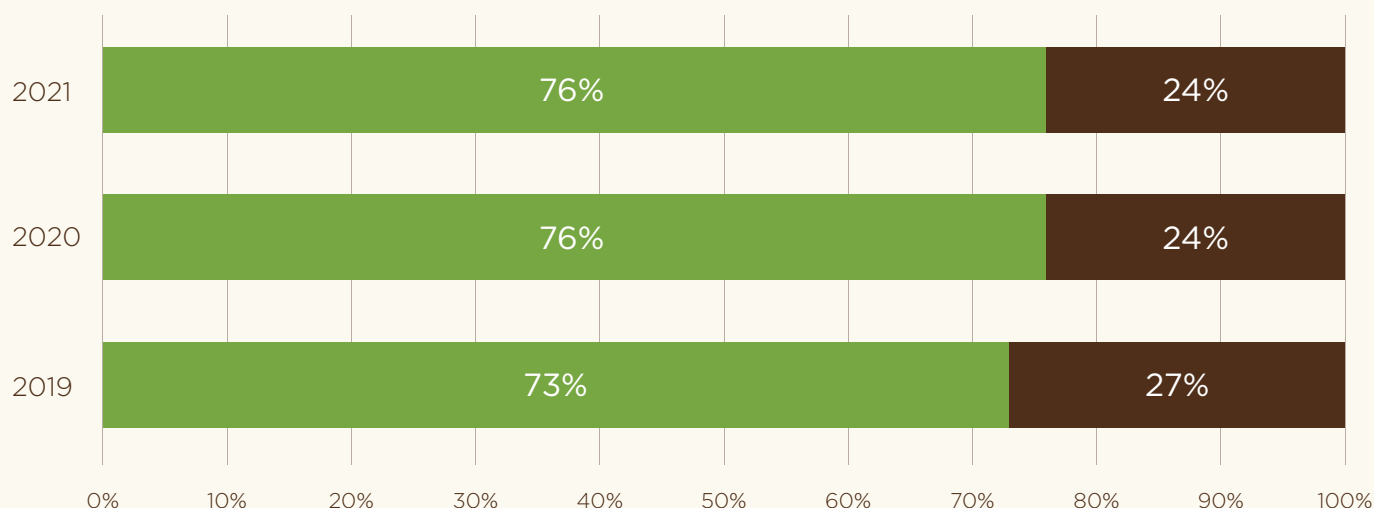
Cocoa Manager, Nestlé

2021 data shows that 76% of all chocolate and other cocoa containing consumer products sold by Beyond Chocolate signatories on the Belgian market is certified and/or covered by a corporate sustainability program. The share of coverage by certification/corporate sustainability schemes has thus not grown compared to last year, however, the reported volumes sold on the Belgian market have risen 29.6% (24919.67 MT-BE in 2020 vs. 32303.7 MT-BE in 2021), showing that more signatories have engaged with the ISCOs.

Since the reporting consumer brands and retailers cover roughly 57% of the market in terms of volumes, the aggregated data on chocolate sold in Belgium cannot be considered representative of the Belgian consumer market. The Secretariat will continue to prospect for new signatories to cover a bigger share of the market and increase impact.

“In 2021, Nestlé launched an innovative income accelerator program aiming to help close the living income gap for farmers. The program is based on cash incentives worth up to 500 euros per cocoa-farming family and support to make crucial changes. One focus area is on pruning cocoa trees. By helping to remove obstacles for farmers to prune and adding the cash incentive, we saw the uptake of pruning leap from around 18% to 80%, and over 9500 hectares pruned to a high-quality standard. This will help increase crop productivity and incomes for farmers. We welcome beyond chocolate’s efforts to put living incomes higher on the agenda and drive collective action towards a more sustainable cocoa sector in Belgium and beyond.”

Share of corporate program / certified cocoa by Beyond Chocolate signatories





Commitment of Beyond Chocolate retailers

At the start of the Beyond Chocolate program, the five retail signatories of Beyond Chocolate took up the additional individual commitment of reaching 100% certification/corporate sustainability scheme coverage for their private label chocolate products sold in Belgium by the end of 2020. Colruyt Group, Delhaize, Aldi and Lidl met this commitment in 2020. Carrefour has not yet met this individual commitment.

As a next step, a retail task force will also be convened to determine how retailers can further contribute to the partnership's 2025 and 2030 targets.

3.2.3 Progress vis-à-vis the Four Common Challenges

In their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) the four National Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa identified four common challenges. The data below presents the progress of Beyond Chocolate partners vis-à-vis these four common challenges.

3.2.3.1 Enhance the transparency in the cocoa value chain

Enhancing the sustainability of cocoa farming and of the whole cocoa sector is not possible without adequate forms of cocoa supply chain transparency and traceability. Knowing where cocoa is being sourced and farmed is an important first step and a pre-requisite to identify risks and designing appropriate programs that improve the sustainability of cocoa trading and farming.

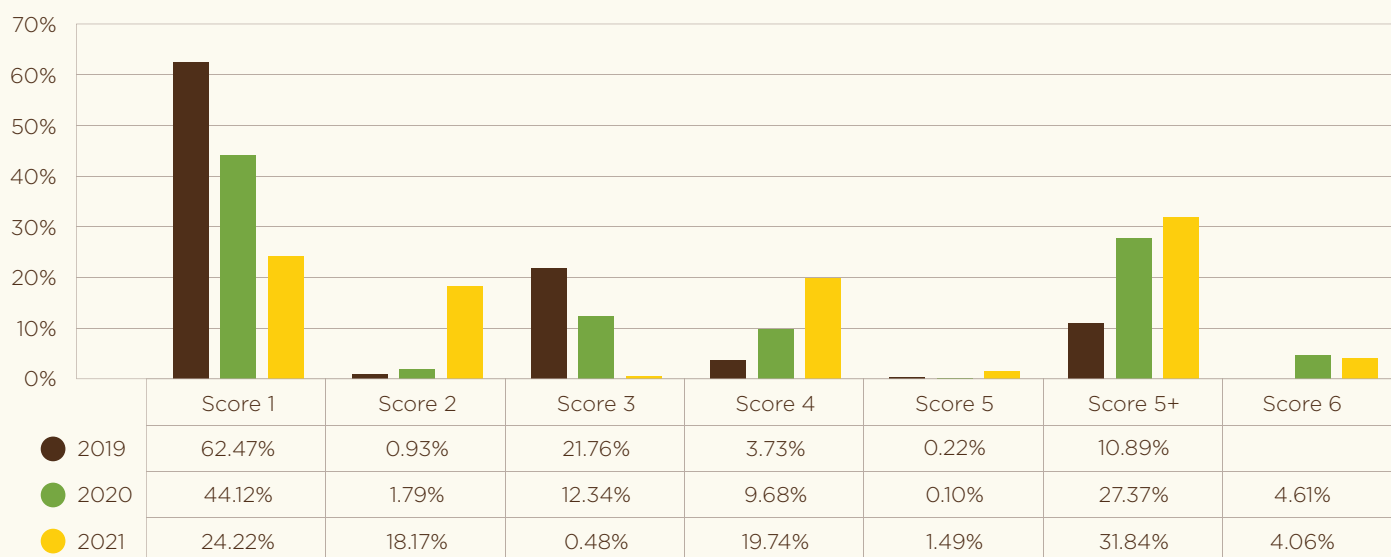


Produced in Belgium

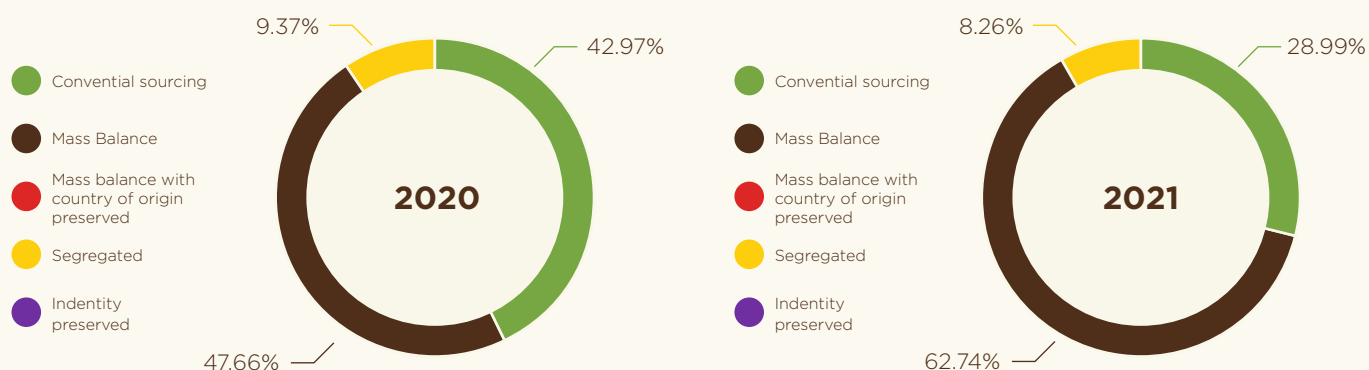
The data on cocoa origin transparency for chocolate produced in Belgium show there is a positive evolution towards more origin transparency, with over 57% of cocoa sourcing for chocolate produced in Belgium traceable at farm level (score 4 and above), a 15% increase compared to the previous year. Partners are investing more in GPS and polygon farm mapping. Beyond Chocolate wants to stimulate this positive trend. To reach the 2025 goal of 100% certification and/or coverage by a corporate sustainability scheme, an origin transparency score of at least 4 'farm known' needs to be reached.

When it comes to traceability of chocolate produced in Belgium, data show a considerable decrease in the share of conventional cocoa. By 2025, conventional cocoa should have disappeared, as all chocolate produced in Belgium will have to be covered by certification and/or a corporate sustainability scheme. This positive trend can be explained by the increasing number of signatories switching their volumes from conventional cocoa to cocoa covered by certification and/or a corporate sustainability scheme.

Cocoa origin transparency B2B



Traceability B2B



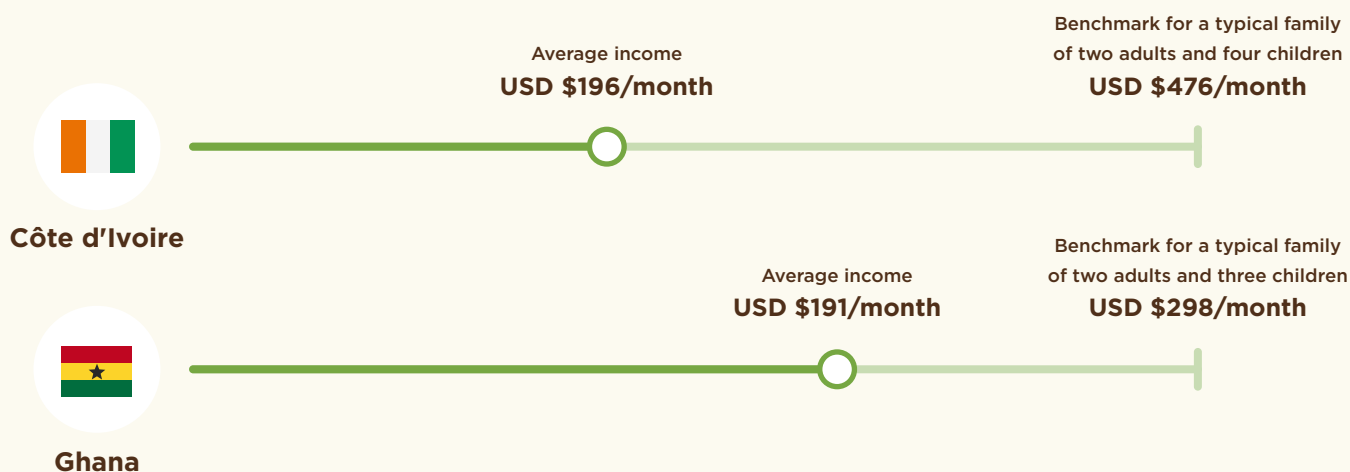


3.2.3.2 Contribute to a living income for cocoa farmers and their families

The Living Income Community of Practice defines living income as: *“The net annual income required for a household in a particular place to afford a decent standard of living for all members of that household. Elements of a decent standard of living include food, water, housing, education, healthcare, transport, clothing, and other essential needs including provision for unexpected events.”* The Beyond Chocolate signatories have the joint ambition to enable living incomes for all farmers linked to the Belgian market by 2030.

Measuring the progress on closing the living income gaps remains a challenge. Four partners have reported data on farmer incomes in their supply chains in 2021, and more are currently experimenting. The resulting sample of 3.251 farming households already provides valuable insights into the progress made, and the pertinence and effectiveness of living income approaches.

Living Income Benchmarks versus current farmer incomes



*Source: www.living-income.com



1. Fairtrade

At Fairtrade, we use farm record books to measure household incomes and together with designated coaches, we provide farmers with training on how to use them. Benefits on these farm record books are twofold: on the one hand they allow farmers to keep track of their farm income and expenditure and on the other, they allow Fairtrade to gather data on farmer incomes, productivity, etc.

What we have learned so far from this approach is that when farmers (husbands and wives) are actively involved in tracking and analyzing their own farm economic performance, they feel empowered to make better decisions on how to manage their farms and how to best use their income.



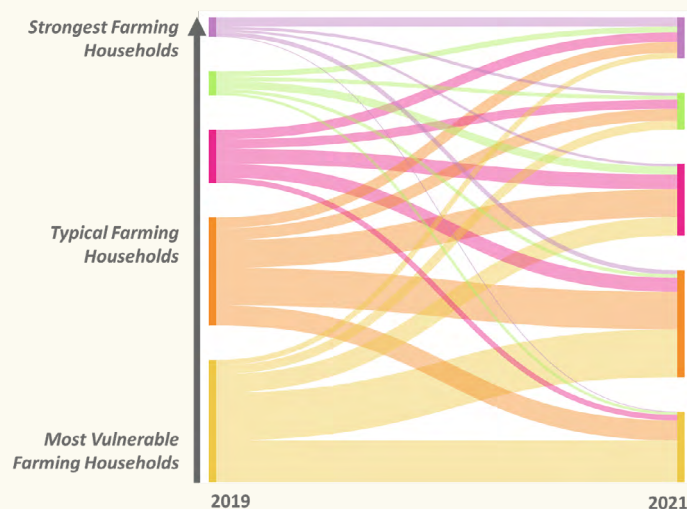
When it comes to obtaining data in terms of productivity, diversification and income improvement, results of the usage of farm record books so far have been mixed. Nevertheless, we do see some slow progress on closing LI gaps, which is done differently in the several farmer communities in which we gathered data.

2. Mondelez/ Cocoa Life

To measure household incomes, Mondelez partners with an independent research organization with a specialized impact evaluations team—Ipsos Mori. Each year, Ipsos visits several thousand farming households and communities across the world that participate in Cocoa Life activities. We learn from them about what works and what doesn't. Increasing the income that rural farming families can earn from their economic activities has always been important for Cocoa Life.

From this income monitoring, we learned that the realities of farming families are so diverse—their opportunities and challenges are often very different. Especially the most vulnerable farming families have other needs from other farming families. To progress sustainable cocoa, we need to work not only with other industry actors but with governments and civil society to provide better opportunities that match different needs of different families in cocoa and beyond.

We saw that, on average between 2019 and 2021, farming families increased their incomes driven by higher yield, the effects of governmental interventions, and price-premium by the industry. At the same time, progress and regress always occur in parallel. From our data, we see families moving upwards and other families losing income opportunities, due to pest and disease, unfavorable weather, and declining economic conditions. In future, we need to shield farming families even better from global crises and volatile markets.



Types of farming households working with Cocoa Life in Ghana, segmented by economic strength and movements between segments from 2019 to 2021. The graph shows that overall, there were less vulnerable households and more strong households in 2021 compared to 2019, however, change happened in all directions and even well performing households may face challenges that set them back. Graph based on Cocoa Life data by Ipsos Mori 2022.

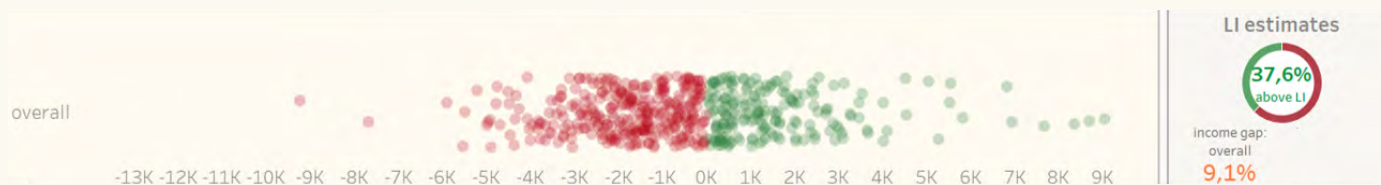


3. Tony's Chocolonely

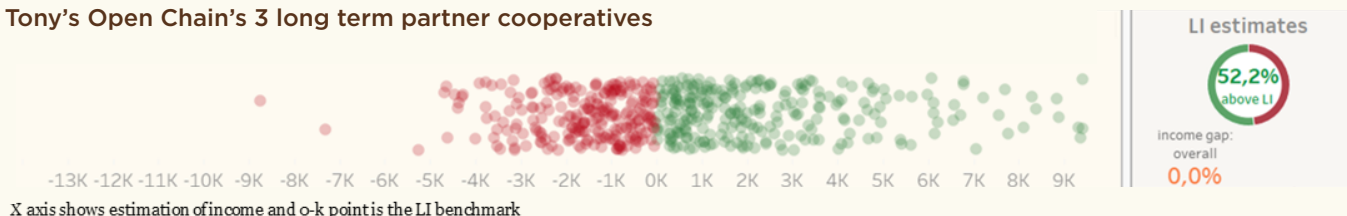
Tony's Open Chain is an industry-led, collaborative initiative to transform cocoa supply chains. It lays the groundwork for industry change by enabling companies to adopt Tony's 5 Sourcing Principles. Tony's 5 Sourcing Principles cover a 100% traceable supply chain, paying a higher cocoa price, having long-term relationships with strong cooperatives, and working together to improve quality and productivity in cocoa. Based on a living income analysis of a representative sample of 500 households in three of Tony's Open Chain's long-term partner cooperatives in Côte d'Ivoire, it is evident that the 5 sourcing principles and good purchasing practices including paying a living income reference price helps

close living income gaps. Over one third of households (37.6%) are at/over the Living Income (LI) benchmark and the average LI gap is 9.1%. Productivity is also higher at over 600kg/ha. Simulations to this model demonstrate a noticeable and substantial change if all cocoa is sold through Tony's Open Chain under the best circumstances (i.e. all cocoa is sold at the LIRP, all premium goes directly to the farmers and productivity is at 800 kg/ha), over half (52.2%) of the households will be at/over Living income and the average LI gap is closed. This shows that progress on achieving a living income for cocoa farmers can only be achieved by paying a higher price for cocoa.

Graph 1: Current household income



Graph 2: Simulation under 'best case' scenario of % households at/over Living Income in Tony's Open Chain's 3 long term partner cooperatives





As a way forward, the ISCO Monitoring working group will discuss how to move towards data collection that is realistically feasible and contributes to enabling measurement of progress. An additional path is the commissioning of impact studies. Moreover, a living income roadmap will be developed to support Beyond Chocolate signatories to close the living income gaps, with intermediate checkpoints as done for the Dutch Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (DISCO).

When looking at the living income interventions partners are adopting through their certification and company programs, data show that in general, partners adopt more holistic living income approaches, working on at least 3 different types of interventions at a time.

Price paid to farmer

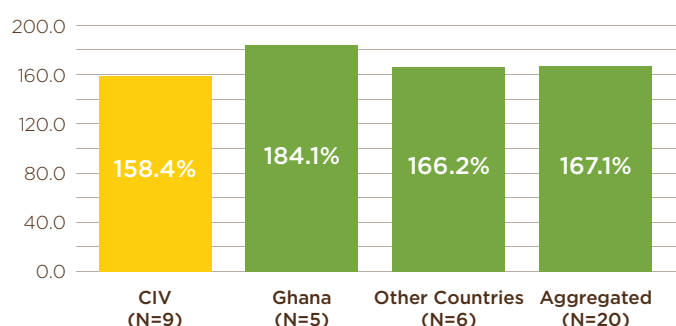
Seven partners have provided data on the price paid to farmer for cocoa. The weighted average amount (in USD) per ton of cocoa beans paid to the farmer by these organizations (farmgate prices + premiums paid to the farmer) was 1.461 USD/ton in 2021. As they are the first willing to report, it may be that they are above market averages.

Use of premiums

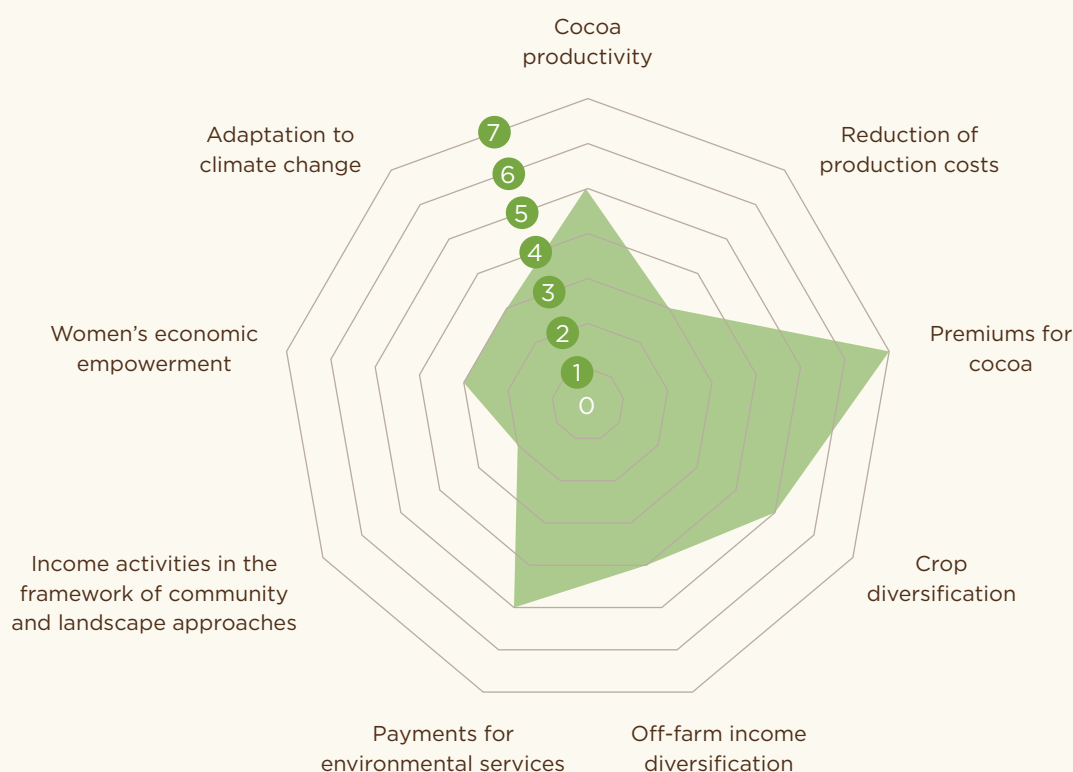
Signatories of Beyond Chocolate increasingly make use of premiums to support cooperatives and complement farmgate prices for cocoa. As such 13 partners have reported data about the volumes and amounts of premiums they paid.

However, it should be noted that there is a large variety in premiums in terms of type and size, way it is being paid or triggered, and way it is being invested. As a next step, the ISCO Monitoring Working Group will take a closer look at these specific interventions to build more transparency on this specific type of intervention.

Average premium paid (USD/ton)



Living income strategies adopted by certification and company schemes





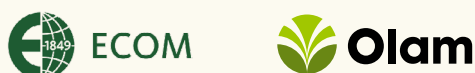
3.2.3.3 Halt cocoa-related deforestation and promote sustainable reforestation and biodiversity

The Beyond Chocolate Partnership aims to end deforestation due to cocoa growing for the Belgian chocolate sector by 2030. To reach this goal, Beyond Chocolate is building on the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI). This initiative is a commitment of top cocoa-producing countries with leading chocolate and cocoa companies to end deforestation and restore forest areas, through no further conversion of any forest land for cocoa production. The following Beyond Chocolate members are CFI signatories:

PRODUCERS



TRADERS



LARGE MANUFACTURERS



These partners report on their progress to CFI on a yearly basis. Being CFI signatory as a partner does not necessarily mean all your cocoa is deforestation-free, however, it is a valuable first step in that direction.

“The Government of Ghana is passionate about halting deforestation and has initiated the Green Ghana Program which is aligned with CFI activities on ongoing afforestation schemes. Green Ghana was launched by the President in March 2021 seeking to create a collective action towards restoration of degraded landscapes in the country, mitigate climate change and inculcate in the youth the values of planting and nurturing trees and their associated benefits. In the coming year, (2023), the Ministry intends to collaborate more closely with private sector and other cocoa related Initiatives (such as Beyond Chocolate) to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in our landscapes.”

Joseph Osiakwan

CFI Coordinator Ghana

The transparency and traceability data reveal increased investments in farm mapping (see chapter 3.2.3.1) which is a positive trend that allows for identification of risk areas. However, data on forest restoration and forest preservation remains a challenge for the partnership.

Most certification standards and corporate sustainability programs have indicated to invest in agroforestry systems as an important intervention.

Countries	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Other countries	Total
Number of farmers that applied cocoa agroforestry in the reporting year	34.267	100.223	63.711	198.201
On-farm trees distributed in the reporting year	3.330.993 (N=5)	3.217.828 (N=7)	1.434.636 (N=3)	7.983.457 (N=15)
Hectares of off-farm forest were restored with the project's / programme's support	618 ha (N=2)	218 ha (N=1)	No data	836 ha (N=3)
Hectares of forest benefitted from forest protection	3.500 ha (N=1)	294.000 (N=2)	No data	297.500



3.2.3.4 End child labour and forced labor in the cocoa value chain

The Beyond Chocolate Partnership document comprises several goals and ambitions with respect to eliminating forced labour, extending schooling and ending (the worst forms of) child labour in the cocoa value chain. Even though these goals do not appear explicitly in the 2025 and 2030 commitments, they are an implicit part of the living income commitment. Beyond Chocolate partners are also reporting on their actions and progress vis-à-vis this challenge.

Partners have also indicated that ending child labour is a focus point for their certification standards and corporate sustainability programs. Reporting data shows that in 2021, 928,703 households were covered by child protection systems, an increase of 7% compared to last year. However, it should be noted that this total is probably distorted and higher than reality because of double counting. The monitoring working group and child labour working group will discuss how to avoid double counting as much as possible in a next monitoring round.

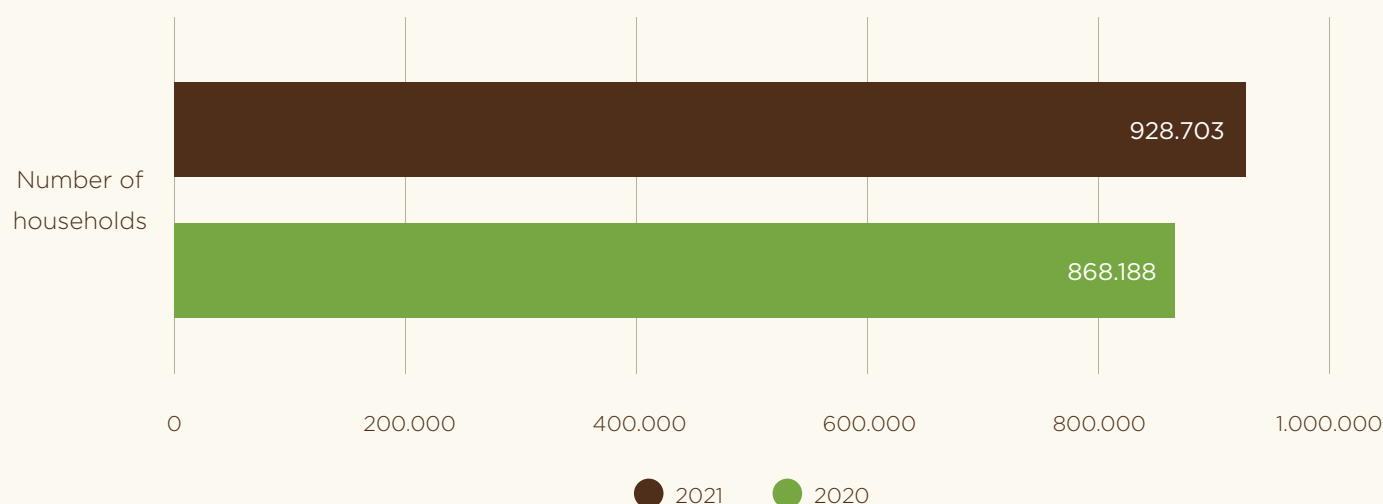
In total, 7 partners have also reported on the number of child labour cases identified and remediated in 2021.

Number of cases of child labour identified in 2021	53.663
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Number of children who received remediation in 2021	88.000
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Number of farming households covered by child protection systems





4

Co-Financing Fund

Under the Beyond Chocolate Partnership, a co-financing fund of 2 million euros was made available for impactful sustainability projects in cocoa. Currently, 8 projects are being co-financed with funding from the Belgian Development Cooperation. In 2021, first outcomes and learnings from the projects were drawn. The Beyond Chocolate secretariat will continue to work with project partners to upscale the projects and encourage the sector to replicate successful models.





4.1 Theory of Change

The 8 co-financed Beyond Chocolate projects are managed by diverse consortia of stakeholders, including traders, brands, retailers, NGOs, and knowledge institutions. Through the projects, the stakeholders are testing innovative approaches for delivering on their living income commitment. An important aspect of these projects is the element of scalability – the projects might thus start at a relatively small scale, while having an ambitious strategy to scale over time. The projects aim at contributing to market transformation in Belgium, bringing new sustainable products that are accessible to consumers on shelves. The private sector partners provide at least two third of the project funding, while one third is provided by the co-financing fund. In this way, Beyond Chocolate creates an environment that triggers action by leveraging private sector investments.

As the projects progress, Beyond Chocolate has been putting more focus on the sharing of successes, challenges, and lessons. To structure the sharing of learnings, a 'learning agenda' is being developed in the ISCO working group on living income¹. This learning agenda allows partners to jointly build on interventions² that work and learn from those that don't to accelerate progress in closing living income gaps. The learning agenda is divided into different areas of interventions or smart-mix strategies. These areas have been categorized according to their sphere of influence and linked to specific learning questions.

Farming Household



Income Measurement. How do we choose the best approach for measuring income and income gaps for different goals?



Segmentation. What services are needed for which farms/coops? What are useful segmentation models/frameworks to use?



Smart Mix Strategies. To what extent do interventions around different income drivers affect household incomes? What tools or mechanisms can most effectively assess impact of income drivers and integrated smart-mix solutions?



Farmer Decision making. What drives adoption of 'income driving interventions'? What factors influence farmers to reinvest their income into cocoa quantity and quality?

Business Model



Supply Chain Models. How can supply chain actors effectively demand and supply 'living income cocoa'? What are principles of effective partnerships that enable living income?



Procurement Practices. How do specific procurement practices – including price as a key income driver and other practices such as long term contracts – affect incomes?



Branding. What is needed to build the business case for LI branded products? How best to tell the story?

Enabling Environment



Landscapes. How can living income be enabled through a landscape approach? How can a landscape approach benefit from a deliberate living income roadmap?



Resilience. How do we effectively link our strategies with public policies and programmes that affect household income such as gender equity, youth employment and child labour?

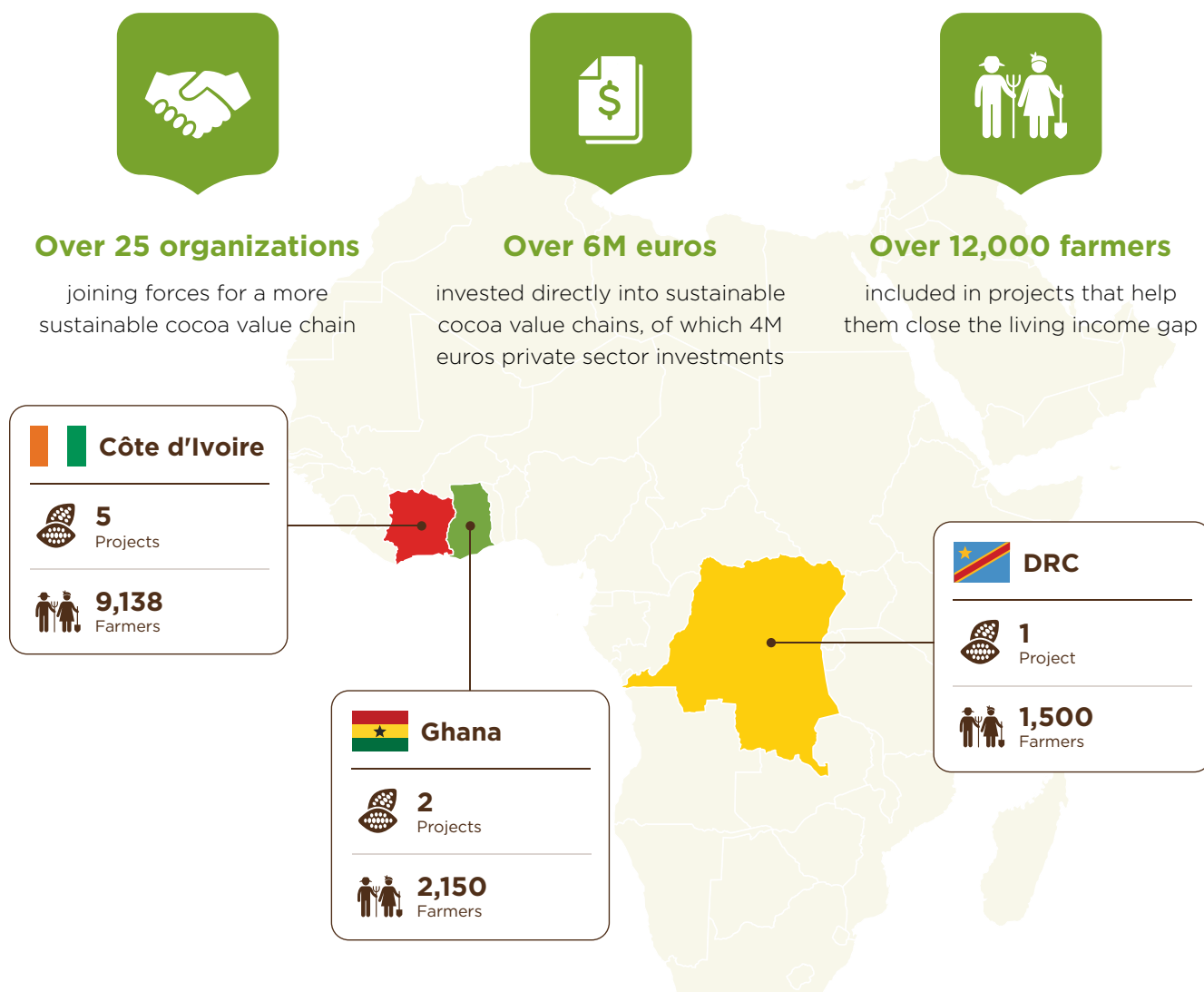
1. An ISCO working group is a working group set up jointly by the National Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa in Europe (ISCOs), at this point including the Belgian, Dutch, German and Swiss initiatives. Members of all ISCOs are welcome to participate in the working groups.

2. These are not limited to interventions under the Beyond Chocolate co-financed projects.



4.2 Overview of the Co-Financed Sustainability Projects

8 Co-financed Sustainability Projects



- 1 Cargill:** PUR Projet, Empow'Her
- 2 Colruyt group:** Puratos, Rikolto International, Fairtrade Belgium, Ghent University, Agro-Insight, Access Agriculture, ECSP
- 3 Galler:** Yeyasso, Enabel, University of Ghent, dep. of tropical plants & crops, Zoto
- 4 Puratos:** Fairtrade Belgium, Belvas SA
- 5 Tony's:** Delhaize Ahold, ECAM cooperative, Socoopacdi Cooperative, Ecojad Cooperative, Kapatchiva Cooperative
- 6 Barry Callebaut:** Cocoa Horizons Foundation, Callebaut (Barry Callebaut Belgium), Aldi South Group, Boris B Farms Limited, Envirofit, Koudjis Ghana Limited, Solidaridad, West Africa Limited, Meridia
- 7 Mondelez, CIAT:** Olam International, Sustainable Food Lab
- 8 ZOTO:** Silva Cacao, Rikolto, UPCCO, Cacao Okapi



Image Credit: Colruyt Group

4.3 2021 Outcomes & Learnings

A living income for cocoa farmers in Côte d'Ivoire: a chainwide collaboration to move from concept to reality

Colruyt Group, Rikolto International, Puratos, ECSP, Agro Insight, Fairtrade Belgium and Access Agriculture

Main outcomes in 2021

Since the start of the project, Colruyt Group and Puratos jointly developed a price model that allows farmers to receive the Living Income Reference Price (cfr. infra). Other interventions to close the Living Income gap in 2021 include setting up agricultural service provider units to support the farmer communities with pruning and spraying services, training on post-harvest handling of cocoa beans, training of women in cassava and cowpea cultivation to diversify incomes and setting up of Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs). These VSLAs are now linked to a microfinance institution which has opened bank accounts to all members.

102/102



Farmers with improved access to finance, including VSLA membership, receiving training on financial planning and having a bank account (43% women)

88/100



Women trained in good agricultural practices in cassava and having access to improved planting materials

97/102



Farmers trained on postharvest handling of cocoa beans



San Pedro
Côte d'Ivoire



102
Cocoa families reached



2020-2023



Budget
€529.166

— Private sector
€356.111

— Public sector
€173.055



Main challenges & learnings

The price model developed by Puratos and Colruyt Group adds on top of the Farmgate Price, the Fairtrade minimum price as well as the Cocoa Trace quality premium and bonus. Colruyt Group pays an additional living income premium to close the gap to the LIRP (2.200 USD/MT beans). This premium is changeable depending on the farmgate price. Through this price model, farmers under the project earned about 30% more per kilogram of cocoa than “regular” cocoa farmers in Cote d’Ivoire for the 2020/2021 season.



Karen Janssens

Expert Sustainable Sourcing, Colruyt Group



“Price is one of the easier drivers to work on as a value chain actor as it is within our sphere of control.”

Managing a large coalition of partners is complex and requires a project governance system. As such, the project has set up a Steering Committee which convenes multiple times per year to discuss the contribution of each partner’s intervention to the overall project goal and to deliberate on challenges and lessons learned in order to adapt the strategies or activities where needed.

FARMERS UNDER THE PROJECT EARNED ABOUT 30% MORE PER KILOGRAM OF COCOA THAN “REGULAR” COCOA FARMERS IN COTE D’IVOIRE FOR THE 2020/2021 SEASON.

Access to land for cassava production for women in Daregba is a big challenge. The project is in discussions with the original landowners in the community to release some parcels of land to the women to increase their cassava production in the community.

Next steps

In the next year(s), the project will finalize the construction of two fermentation and drying centers and will involve women in running these centers. The project will also focus on improving access to finance by training VSLA members on the use of mobile payments systems. Lastly, this project aims to share learnings, experiences and pitfalls by documenting these and disseminating this knowledge through webinars and publications.



Sustainable organic and high-quality cocoa production for the cooperative Yeyasso in Ivory Coast

La Chocolaterie Galler, Yeyasso, Enabel, Zoto and Université de Gembloux

Main outcomes in 2021

In 2021, the project's main priorities were the organic transition and the improvement of the cocoa beans's quality sold by the Yeyasso cooperative in order for the cooperative to obtain higher prices. To improve cocoa production, shade trees-seedlings (with leguminous trees) were produced and planted. Furthermore, farmers were trained in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) to facilitate the transition to organic farming. Issues with beans fermentation, drying and storage were identified and solved. Lastly, the project has made great steps in professionalizing the Yeyasso cooperative through the coaching on finance and business management led by Enabel. As such, the cooperative has developed a communication plan with a slogan, website and leaflets.



Tonkpi

Côte d'Ivoire



150

Cocoa farmers reached



2020-2025



Budget

€352.000

— Private sector

€250.000

— Public sector

€102.000



167/167

Farmers trained on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)



83/250

Hectares awaiting organic certification



1399/4250

Trees planted



Main challenges & learnings

The project found that adoption of GAP does not become a habit after one training round. Therefore, the project will offer continuous awareness and training on GAP, as this is important in compensating for the possible yield loss during the transition to organic cocoa.



Ambroise Louan

Cocoa farmer, Yeyasso



Salvatore Iannello

CEO, Galler

“There is no environmental justice without social justice. Like a sailboat that needs the wind to move forward, they participate in the same movement for a fairer society where everyone can live with dignity in a healthy environment.”

“The Beyond Chocolate project with Galler will guarantee a better price for us and increase our incomes via niche markets. It will protect and preserve our health, as well as the environment and maintain the fertility of the soil over the long term.”

Next steps

After conducting small-scale experiments, 2022 is the year of scaling up the fermentation process with the construction of centralized fermentation centers. In addition, work on the implementation of good agricultural practices will continue. Under the diversification component, the project will sell eggs and chickens through the construction of a chicken farm, thus generating new sources of income. The livestock activities will also produce organic chicken manure that can be used as fertilizer in certified cocoa crops.



Image Credit: Tony's Chocolonely

Changing the norm in the cocoa sector

Tony's Chocolonely, Ahold Delhaize, ECAM cooperative, Socoopacdi Cooperative, Ecojad Cooperative, Kapatchiva Cooperative

Main outcomes in 2021

In 2021, about 6.069 farms were visited to draft individual farm development plans and coach the farmers on cocoa agroforestry measures, as well as other practices. The plans help improve farming practices, increase production and improve the quality of beans. To support farmers in this transition, 96 working groups were set up and trained with the aim of assisting the farmers with pruning and post pruning activities. Furthermore, about 29.793 shade trees have been planted, enabled by the tree nurseries run by women in the communities. Lastly, Tony's Chocolonely has been working on a yield estimation model to inform more accurate living income calculations.



Divo, Meagui, Bonon & Daloa
Côte d'Ivoire



6.654
Cocoa farmers impacted



2020-2023



Budget
€768.300

— Private sector
€514.761
— Public sector
€253.539

100%



Farmers having access to pruning teams

57%



Farmers out of multi dimensional poverty



Main learnings

One of the main challenges of this project is about quality and access to data. In some cases, acquiring information of farmer progress is difficult and requires persistent follow-up. Likewise, making sure this information remains up to date can be challenging. GPS mapping of farms is a crucial part of reliable farmer data sets as mapping data is the starting point for rolling out professional cooperative services. However, mapping data must be updated yearly for the lists to remain relevant to work with.

Next steps

In 2022, the project continues with farmer coaching to implement the recommendations of individual farm plans in all cooperatives. Furthermore, as reliable data is crucial, the project focuses on digitalizing farm data, improving data collection and management at cooperative level to get better insights from the different data sources. Research on living income to better understand the living income gap in the supply chain has also been conducted.





Durbar of June 2022 attended by traditional authorities during which 501 farmers received land title documentation.

Cocoa Household Income Diversification Project

Barry Callebaut, ALDI SOUTH Group, Boris B Farms Limited, Envirofit West-Africa limited, Koudijs Ghana Limited, Meridia, Solidaridad West-Africa

Main outcomes in 2021

In 2021, the project has continued to set up VSLAs, bringing the total to 78 with a total membership of 1.058. Of these members, 43% are female. A significant success in key VSLA variables has been observed. As such, the group has saved and increased their principals to an average of €900. The project also aims to empower farmers to take control of their business through land title registration. In 2021, Meridia mediated the impasse between tenant farmers' association and the traditional authorities in the project area, ensuring 501 farmers subscribed to land title processes. Other project activities in 2021 included further building out the poultry component to diversify farmer incomes, rejuvenating 41ha of plots and offering continuous support to farmers on Good Agronomic Practices.

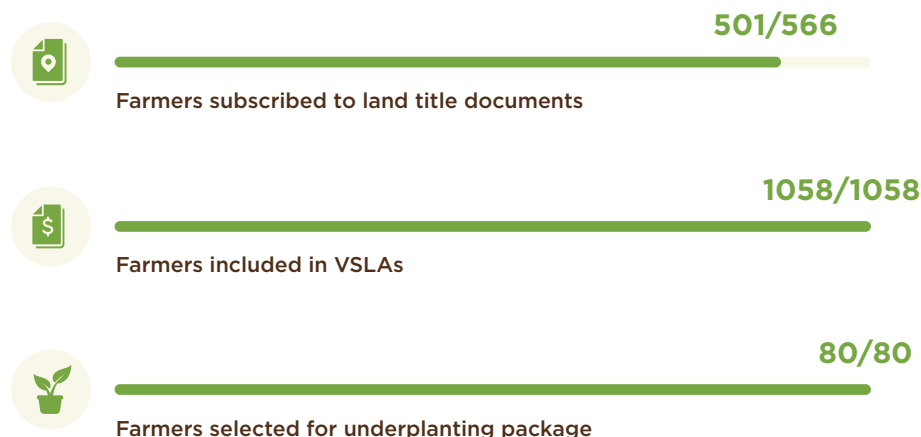
Western North, Ashanti & Central Regions
Ghana

1.500
Cocoa farmers impacted

2020-2022

Budget
€948.054

— Private sector
€683.113
— Public sector
€264.941





Main learnings

VSLA groups meetings are avenues for not only financial discussions but also serve as common grounds in discussing social issues affecting the community such as child labor and gender issues.

Another important lesson is that farmers in the communities rely heavily on their local chiefs when it comes to land issues. The local chiefs should therefore be integrated into the process. This increases the farmers' confidence in the process.



Kofi Ebenezer

*Kroblina in the Sefwi
Asawinso District*

Next steps

In 2022, the project will continue to give regular coaching and monitoring to ensure the proper functioning of the VSLAs. 30 VSLAs will be supported specifically in the poultry component. Furthermore, in 2022, 501 land titles were delivered to farmers, giving them a long-term view of their cocoa farming business. Lastly, the project will continue to collaborate with COCOBOD to monitor and support installed plots and farmers.

“I was able to borrow money from our VSLA to buy a motorized sprayer which I use to spray my farm as well as hire out to other farmers for an extra income. I have learned a lot since I joined the Nyonkopa Cocoa VSLA Group. By applying what we have been taught during our meetings, I opened a savings account at the Asawinso Rural Bank and currently have close to GHC 3,000 in it.”



Image Credit: PUR Projet

Beyond trees, towards better incomes for cocoa farmers

Cargill, PUR Projet & Empow'Her

Main outcomes in 2021

In 2021, the project further developed both its agroforestry and women entrepreneurship components. As for the first, Cargill and PUR Projet sensitized farmers on agroforestry and tree benefits, worked with a private nursery to produce seedlings, trained farmers on tree planting and distributed the seedlings. In total, 39.995 multi-purpose trees were distributed for on-farm planting. As for the women entrepreneurship component, Cargill and Empow'Her offered trainings on personal development, capacity building, entrepreneurial skills, and gender equality for behavioural and leadership change to 50 women in the same communities where agroforestry efforts take place. In a next phase, the project selected 10 projects led by women to be further implemented. 6 of these projects are related to agroforestry.



**San-Pédro, Bas
Sassandra District**
Côte d'Ivoire



1.200
Cocoa farmers
impacted



2020-2023



Budget
€763.695

- Private sector
€510.454
- Public sector
€253.241



314/1200

Hectares developed under cocoa agroforestry



50/50

Women trained on financial literacy & entrepreneurship



310/1200

Farmers adopted cocoa agroforestry



Image Credit: Cargill

Main learnings

Timber companies are still very active in the Southwest region. Farmers are reluctant to plant trees by fear of having their parcels damaged. Cargill and PUR Projet are therefore involving the MINEF in future sensitizations on the new forest code and is in discussion with timber companies.

For gender interventions to become effective, the entire community needs to be involved, including men. Most of the time, women have to ask their husbands for permission to access a marketplace or to participate in training. The implementation of more comprehensive awareness-raising activities among women and their communities makes it easier to achieve and sustain the desired results.

“I used to have a lot of ideas running through my head, but I didn’t know how to organize them. But since I took the market research course [of Empow’her], I have learnt how to identify customer needs.”

Kouadio Juliana

Cagnan

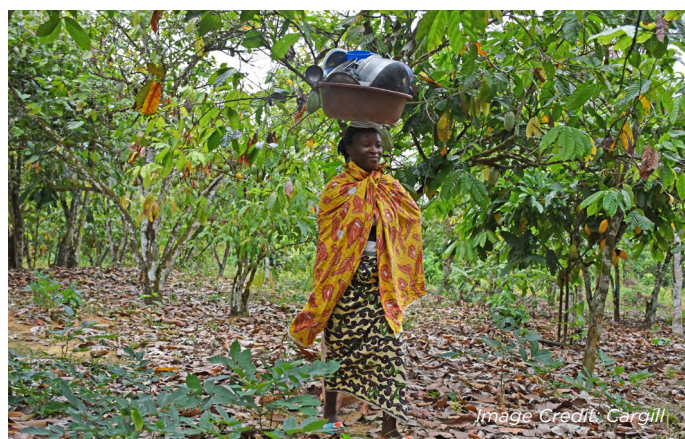


Image Credit: Cargill

Next steps

In 2022, the women’s entrepreneurship component will move to the incubation phase, consisting of a series of 17 training modules on microenterprises creation and management. The objective of the incubation phase is to provide participants with adequate tools to increase their management and leadership skills and bring them confidence in their entrepreneurial potential. Furthermore, the project will continue to engage new farmers into agroforestry and distribute and plant seedlings while offering technical assistance to farmers on agroforestry best practices.



Image Credit: ZOTO

Direct market access for Ituri smallholder farmers producing deforestation-free premium cocoa

ZOTO, Silva Cacao, Rikolto, UPCCO, Cacao Okapi

Main outcomes in 2021

In 2021, the project focused on trainings on cocoa quality assessment through physical and sensory evaluations. The quality team was trained on use of field equipment (e.g. refractometers, pHmeters) and also a basic lab was installed for cocoa liquor preparations. Furthermore, emphasis was put on improving infrastructure of existing fermentation & drying centers for optimization of the post-harvest processing. Through the project 769 farmers – corresponding to 2,034 ha – were audited for organic certification, a process to be completed in early 2022. These efforts included a series of trainings on sustainable good agricultural practices. Lastly, Silva Cacao gave the opportunity for trainings with Farmer Connect that allows for the use of the platform to improve traceability by delivering more tangible data with regards to deforestation.



**Ituri province,
Mambasa & Irumu
territories**

DRC



1.500

Cocoa farmers
impacted



2021-2024

Reporting on March
2021 – February 2022



Budget

€425.665

— Private sector

€224.165

— Public sector

€201.500



250

Farmers have been trained on sight on improved on-farm fermentation methods and a first export contract for their cocoa was signed



2

Fermentation centers upgraded



+0.20\$/kg

Farm Gate Price increase from 1.5\$/kg to 1.70\$/kg
for conventional going to BE



+0.50\$/kg

Farm Gate Price increase from 1.5\$/kg to 2.00\$/kg
for Veliche/Silva cocoa

Main learnings

The Ituri region has been hit by unfortunate civil crisis and insecurity which delays project implementation. Despite that, the team remains motivated and looks forward to the continuation of this project as a benefit to the agroecology of the region but also as a guaranteed income for the farmers.

Next steps

A key moment for the project rose at the beginning of 2022, when political circumstances in the Ituri province allowed for a visit to the origin by the project team. This opportunity was treasured as the project leaders could experience first-hand the challenges and advances of the project.

Apart from farm visits for hands-on trainings of harvest and farm management, elaborate meetings with cooperative farmer members were organized at each fermentation center. An exchange on market expectations, efforts about the need for quality consistency, challenges with financial matters and living standards and future prospects were openly discussed. Sample chocolates from important chocolate makers who use already the beans of CCO were available for tasting so the farmers can experience the final product.

Also, forty technical leaders of UPCCO, CCO, and Rikolto got an in-depth training on cocoa quality for centralized as well as de-centralized techniques, having an impact in 5 primary communities (Manyá, Mambasa, Kilimamwenza, Mayuano, Babungwe).

In addition, in February 2022 the 769 farms were officially certified organic by Ecocert and the first contracts for organic cocoa shipments were signed.





Farmers-Chocolatiers Sustainable partnership

Puratos, Fairtrade Belgium, Belvas

Main outcomes in 2021

The project aims to secure a living income for 1000 Cacao-Trace and Fairtrade farmers by engaging in an innovative qualitative conversion and long-term commercial partnership. The project partners will ensure that the farmers participating in the project will be paid the Living Income Reference Price and that route to market will be ensured for them through long term contracts.

The project started implementation in late 2021 and started by engaging chocolatiers to participate. So far, three customers have joined the project. Furthermore, the project identified 6 communities in 5 different cooperatives. The agroforestry component of the project took off in 2021 in the San Pedro Region. 40 000 trees were planted in 2021 which was the first year of implementation.



San Pedro
Côte d'Ivoire



1.000
Cocoa farmers
impacted



2021-2023



Budget
€482.000

— Private sector
€382.000

— Public sector
€100.000



Main learnings



**Raphael Audoin
Rouzeau**

Puratos

Next steps

Starting from 2022, the project will pro-actively kick off on the ground. In the first half of the year 6 out of the 10 forecasted community fermentation centers will be built. Cacao-Trace certification process will be engaged as well as Fairtrade upon customer request. Operational teams and supply chain aim to be fully operational for the next crop season starting in October. Lastly, under the agroforestry component, 100 000 shade trees will be planted by the end of 2022.

“The project business model is highly dependent on cooperative engagement. Therefore, throughout the project implementation there will be a strong focus on engaging the cooperative management and ensuring they see the value of the project.”



Landscapes for cocoa livelihoods

Mondelez, CIAT, Olam, Sustainable Food Lab

Main outcomes in 2021

2021 was the first full year of the project implementation and focused on the “segment” phase of the project in which the landscape was segmented to identify high priority conservation sites and the households were segmented to identify which farmers would benefit more from conservation or intensification activities. Four different livelihood strategies of conservation priority farmer segments were identified along a gradient from those with a livelihood strategy most to least vulnerable to forest conservation initiatives. Lastly, the project team has engaged with the ongoing Targeted GAP program of Mondelez and Olam, thus enabling smoother project management processes and data sharing.

Main learnings

Cocoa farmers often have “initiative fatigue” and expect that new initiatives result in temporary payoffs but no long-term gains. The project therefore uses human-centered design approaches to establish empathy with growers and develop solutions that are aligned to their interests.

Next steps

2022 will primarily focus on design and testing of a Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) mechanism that motivates cocoa growing communities to act as conservation champions of adjacent forests. In the final two years, the focus will be on implementation, monitoring and adaptation of the toolkit for replication in subsequent landscapes.



**Landscape around
Tano Offin reserve,
Atwima Mponua
district**

Ghana



650

Cocoa farmers
impacted



2020-2024



Budget

€1.141.393

— Private sector

€802.000

— Public sector

€339.393



5

Events & Working Groups

The Beyond Chocolate Partnership brings together all expertise on sustainable cocoa production and creates a context in which best and worst practices can be openly shared. As such, Beyond Chocolate has identified and shared living income learnings from its co-financed projects through its project working group and its living income learning event. The partnership is increasingly working with the other ISCOs to bring knowledge exchange to a higher level. Starting from 2022, a series of thematic working groups will be organized jointly³.

3. Find more information on the harmonized ISCO working groups and events here: <https://www.idhsustainabletrade.com/uploaded/2022/07/ISCO-Working-Groups-Task-Forces-Learning-Events-A4-Document-24-2.pdf>





**ISCO
MONITORING
WORKING GROUP**

March 18th 2021

**ISCO
TRACEABILITY
WORKING GROUP**

April 29th 2021

**ISCO
TRACEABILITY
WORKING GROUP**

March 4th 2021

**LAUNCH EVENT
OF THE BEYOND
CHOCOLATE-GISCO
MONITORING TOOL**

April 28th 2021

**BEYOND CHOCOLATE
PROJECT WORKING
GROUP**

May 18th 2021



ISCO TRACEABILITY LEARNING EVENT

June 24th 2021

On June 24th, The National Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa in Europe (ISCO's) organized an online learning event on traceability in the cocoa sector. The event zoomed in on the current and upcoming national and privately owned traceability systems and how these could interoperate. A special emphasis was put on the value these systems create for farmers. The event featured high-level speakers from the European Commission, COCOBOD, the Conseil Café Cacao, Fairtrade International, ECAKOOG Cooperative, Barry Callebaut and Tropenbos International.

Find the recordings [here!](#)



BEYOND CHOCOLATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

September 30th 2021

During its General Assembly on September 30th, Beyond Chocolate presented the results of the 2020 reporting by partners. This happened simultaneous to the publication of the 2020 Annual Report. Achievements were celebrated and priorities for the following years were set. Via short presentations by project partners, participants were introduced to several of the Beyond Chocolate co-financed projects and the sustainable products these projects bring to the Belgian market. Furthermore, the increased collaboration with the other National Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa (ISCOs) was celebrated and five new partners were welcomed.

Find the recordings [here!](#)

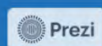


Learning Event on Living Income

Beyond Chocolate

To reach a living income we need a combination, or "smart-mix" of interventions that target multiple income drivers. To achieve long-term, sustainable results these interventions must often take a multi-stakeholder approach and go beyond individual actors.

In this learning event organized by Beyond Chocolate, stakeholders that are leading innovative living income projects (some of which are co-financed under Beyond Chocolate) zoomed in on specific living income interventions and shared their learnings and challenges. Click on the different panels in the visual on the right and learn from our partners' experience.



Find the full recording here

LEARNING EVENT ON LIVING INCOME

November 16th 2021

In this learning event, Beyond Chocolate partners shared interesting approaches, learnings and challenges from the Beyond Chocolate co-financed projects as well as other relevant sustainability projects and programs. The event aimed to inspire stakeholders to adopt impactful living income interventions and models. The following topics were discussed:

- How to adopt price mechanisms within holistic living income approaches?
- How to create an enabling environment to reaching a living income?
- How to build the case for living income brands?

Find the recordings [here](#)! Find the interactive presentation of the event [here](#)!



6

Governance structure

The Beyond Chocolate Partnership is managed by IDH, the Sustainable Trade Initiative with generous funding from the Directorate-General Development Cooperation. Partners are represented in the decision-making processes through the Beyond Chocolate Steering Committee, which provides strategic guidance and direction to the program. Outside of the national borders, Beyond Chocolate is collaborating closely with the other National Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa in Europe or 'ISCO's'.



Beyond Chocolate

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT



Employees of IDH, the Sustainable Trade Initiative who coordinate the Beyond Chocolate Program and prepare the Steering Committee meetings



Charles Snoeck
Program Manager



Marloes Humbeeck
Senior Program Officer

BELGIAN GOVERNMENT

Funding partner of the Beyond Chocolate Program



Belgium
partner in development

STEERING COMMITTEE

gives direction to the IDH Secretariat on strategic program development and implementation issues and advises on new developments and priorities in the Belgian chocolate sector.

INDUSTRY



Philippe de Selliers
Chairman & Industry Representative

NGOs



Koen van Troos
Civil Society Representative

INVESTORS



Wouter Vanderspyen
Social Impact Investor Representative

KNOWLEDGE CENTERS



Patrick Van Damme
Knowledge Center Representative

PUBLIC SECTOR



Filip Vandenbroeke
Public Sector Representative

RETAIL



Mieke Vercaeren
Retail Representative

NATIONAL INITIATIVES ON SUSTAINABLE COCOA IN EUROPEA (ISCO'S)

Partner initiatives that are bundling efforts with Beyond Chocolate for a sustainable cocoa value chain through collaborative action. The secretariats and boards of the initiatives have regular meeting to discuss our common strategy and activities.



Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa



Forum Nachhaltiger Kakao
German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa



DISCO
DUTCH INITIATIVE ON SUSTAINABLE COCOA

* The French Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa has recently signed the existing MoU between the ISCOs and will also be working together closely with Beyond Chocolate.



STEERING COMMITTEE

Koen van Troos

Filip Vandenbroeke

Wouter Vandersypen

Patrick Van Damme

Philippe de Selliers

Karen Janssens



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