

COCOOPERATION GOVERNANCE

Introduction

Cocooperation is an IDH-sponsored program that has started in 2022 and will continue at least until the end of 2025. The overall objective of the program is to make sure that 100,000 cocoa farming households in different production regions of the country will have reduced the average living income gap from more than 50% to less than 30% by the end of the program’s implementation cycle.

The target group for this program will be in particular the median group of cocoa farming families who have 2.0 – 5.0 ha of farm land and their cooperatives. However, this focus does not exclude other categories of cocoa farms and cooperatives.

The main outcomes of the Cocooperation program will be that:

- I. The targeted 100,000 cocoa farming families will operate a more profitable and sustainable agri-business with cocoa farming as an important component;
- II. Their cooperatives and/or other rural community organisations (around 200) have become more effective and efficient in providing marketing services, credit management and technical support to their members;
- III. Conseil du Café-Cacao and IDH Sustainable Trade Initiative successfully convene the different stakeholders in the sector and align support and commercial activities of cocoa traders, brands, financial organisations, cooperatives and specific donor supported projects.

Committees

Three (3) different committees (Figure 1) that govern and regulate the Cocooperation program are the following:



Figure 1

1. The Secretariat

Role: The secretariat has the mandate to monitor the project including the budget and activities tracking as well as the reporting. It will also carry out the substantive and administrative work of all the projects validated under Cocooperation.

Members:

- Cocooperation Team
- Consortium Leaders and their respective implementers

Frequency of the meetings:

The secretariat is specific to each project. For each project, the Secretariat meets every 2 months and is chaired by the Cocooperation Team. Meetings include field visits with each consortium leader at least once a year.

Deliverables:

Each consortium leader is only required to submit written bi-annual reports to the Secretariat. The bi-annual reports have two components: a narrative report and a financial report. The Secretariat will synthesize each report from all the consortiums leaders and peruse it to the Finance and M&E departments for further assessment.

Between reporting period, the Secretariat will provide a synthesized progress report following their meeting that will inform the Technical Committee.

2. The Technical Committee

Role: The Technical Committee has the mandate to monitor the progress in general of the program and/or each project and share best- practices. It will also assist the Steering Committee in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities on specific technical matters which are beyond the scope and expertise of Steering Committee members. The main objective is to undertake the work program most efficiently and effectively.

Members:

- Internal IDH members of the Selection Committee + representatives of M&E Team & Finance Teams
- Consortiums Leaders
- Conseil du Café Cacao

Frequency of the meetings:

The Technical Committee meets on a quarterly basis and is chaired by the Cocooperation Team.

Deliverables:

A report will be done after every meeting and a synthesis of all reports will be perused to all the members of the Steering Committee within a week.

3. The Steering Committee

Role: The Steering Committee has the mandate to advise and give strategic orientations, support, guidance and oversight of progress. They will also identify and monitor potential risks and ensure the quality of the project and timelines.

Members:

- Internal IDH members (3 people)

- Consortiums Leaders (Senior Management)
- Conseil du Café Cacao (Senior Management)

Frequency of the meetings:

The Technical Committee meets on a half year basis.

Deliverables:

The reporting is done by the Cooperation Team. A synthetization of all reports will be perused to all the members of the Steering Committee the next following week.