



Cocoa &
Forests
Initiative



Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI)

The Cocoa & Forests Initiative is a commitment by top cocoa-producing countries and leading cocoa and chocolate companies to end deforestation in cocoa and restore forest areas. The Cocoa & Forests Initiative is currently implemented in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, which produce approximately 60% of the world's annual supply of cocoa, and Colombia, where cocoa is being seen as an opportunity to support the peace process.



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WHY IS THE CFI NEEDED?

Many chocolate and cocoa companies acknowledge that it is difficult to ensure the cocoa grown in protected areas does not end up in their supply chain. And although governments have set aside protected land, their efforts alone have not prevented illegal deforestation and the expansion of cocoa production into forests.

As cocoa is often grown in regions that border protected forests, cocoa production tends to expand at the expense of forests. In 2018, primary forest loss was of 26% in Côte d'Ivoire, according to the World Resources Institute, and 18.7% in Ghana, according to the Forestry Commission.

This loss of forest is not sustainable for the cocoa sector or the planet. Forests provide a wide range of environmental services, such as the regulation of rainfall, the control of soil erosion or support to soil fertility, which are critical to sustain cocoa farm productivity in the long term. Without forests, cocoa farming would not be sustainable in Ghana. As the sector represents 5% of the GDP, this would be a critical loss to the country's economy, and to the farmers that depend upon cocoa for their livelihood.



HOW IS CFI RELEVANT TO YOU?

Through the CFI, 35 companies representing around 85% of total global usage, and the top two producing country governments have made a pledge to work together to put an end to deforestation related to cocoa production and prevent further land degradation. Beyond the pledge, the CFI provides a platform to help companies and governments formulate and implement detailed action plans to reach these commitments. This includes piloting new approaches at landscape level, supporting farmers in adopting sustainable cocoa farming practices, and helping communities protect the forests they depend on.

CFI IN GHANA

The CFI is chaired by the Government of Ghana and facilitated by IDH, the Sustainable Trade Initiative and the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF).

The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (MLNR) has taken the lead in translating CFI high level commitments into National Implementation Plans, released in July 2018. These plans include interventions in 6 focus areas in 5 regions in Ghana:

1. Ahafo Ano South / Atwima Mponua / Atwima Nwabiagya (Ashanti Region)
2. Asunafo / Asutifi (Ahafo Region)
3. Atiwa / Denkyembaour / East Akim (Eastern Region)
4. Bibiani / Anwiaso / Sefwi Wiawso (Western North Region)
5. Juabeso Bia (Western North Region)
6. Kakum (Central Region)

The approach is based on three pillars crucial to sustainable forest management: (i) forest protection and restoration, (ii) sustainable cocoa production and farmers livelihood and (iii) community engagement and social inclusion.

More than 55 organizations including companies and civil society organizations are involved in shaping and jointly implementing the CFI National Implementation Plan.

CFI ACHIEVEMENTS



Forest Protection & Restoration



14,680 Ha
Area of degraded forest restored in forest reserves



877 Ha
Area of degraded lands destroyed by illegal mining (galamsay) restored



2,338 Ha
Forest area restored in off-reserve



4,640
Farmers trained in Modified Taungyan System



109,449
Farmers informed, trained and or consulted on the forest law enforcement, forest protection and restoration



5
Environmental and Social Management Plan completed in HIA's



3,233
New Individual farmers receiving Payment of Ecosystem Services



9,092
Active Individuals receiving Payment of Ecosystem Service (PES)



562,916
Cocoa plots mapped in direct supply chain of companies



339,928
Cocoa farms mapped in direct supply chain



724,775 Ha
Direct Supply chain with deforestation risk assessment completed



84%
Directly Sourced Cocoa traceable from the farm to the first purchasing point



986
Farmers supported to obtain land tenure agreements/ documentation



7,384
Number of trees registered



27,004,674
Multi-purpose trees distributed for on-reserve and off-reserve planting

*Data on the trees have been taken and are awaiting verification by the Forestry Commission



Sustainable cocoa production and Farmer's livelihoods



14,5056 Ha
Areas of newly cocoa agroforestry established/ in development



112,741
Farmers Applying Cocoa Agroforestry



700 kg/ha
Average yield of cocoa produced



683,269 mt tons
Volumes of cocoa sourced nationwide



18,755,209
Hybrid/Improved cocoa seedlings supplied to beneficiary farmers



11,333,336
Temporary shade trees supplied for newly established cocoa farms



4,369,083
Multi-purpose trees distributed for cocoa agro-forestry establishment



551
Cocoa nurseries sites established



678,133
Farmers trained in Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs)



156,896
Farmers trained in Climate Smart Cocoa (CSC) practices



544,861
Farmers trained in additional livelihoods



72,964
Farmers participating in additional income generating activities



2,073
Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) Group established



99,174
Membership of VSLA groups



105,758
Individuals supported by companies to enroll in a formal financial products & services



Community & Farmer Inclusion

10
New Community Resource Management Areas established

658
Communities with active forest restoration and protection program (CBNRM)

309,364 Ha
Forest area under CBNRM)

106,877
Individuals participating in women empowerment program

23,922
Individuals participating in youth (15-35 years) focused projects and activities



8 COMMITMENTS

- 1 Prohibit and prevent activities that cause or contribute to any further deforestation or forest degradation** in the cocoa sector;
- 2 Respect the rights of cocoa farmers**, including identifying and mitigating social risks, and sequencing the implementation of actions to minimize potential adverse social and economic impacts;
- 3 Promote the effective restoration and long-term conservation** of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Wildlife Resource Reserves, Forest Reserves, and unprotected off reserve forest lands;
- 4 Strengthen supply chain mapping**, with the end goal of full traceability at the farm-level;
- 5 Implement verifiable actions and timebound targets** on the basis of sound data, robust and credible methodologies, stakeholder consultation, and realistic timeframes;
- 6 Implement agreed actions in the context of a broader landscape level approach**, with strong links with similar initiatives in other commodities, and full alignment with the national REDD+ strategy, new Ghana Cocoa Sector Development Strategy II, and other relevant national strategies and plans;
- 7 Embrace shared responsibility to implement the Framework actions**, including continued engagement in a multi-stakeholder process for dialogue on key issues, development of effective implementation plans, and joint learning and knowledge sharing; and
- 8 Provide effective monitoring and reporting on progress** on commitments and actions to ensure transparency and accountability.



Curious to learn more?

GET IN TOUCH!

The National Secretariat
Cocoa & Forests Initiative
Ministry of Lands & Natural Resources
(MLNR)
Accra, Ghana

Kofi Afari
CFI Ghana Administrator
kofiafari32@gmail.com
+233 246124753



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Initiative**

Glown Kyei-Mensah
Program Manager, CFI Ghana, (IDH)
Kyei-Mensah@idhtrade.org
+233 504930085

Vincent Awotwe-Pratt
Ghana Country Program Manager, CFI, (WCF)
vincent.awotwe-pratt@worldcocoa.org
+233 243242859