



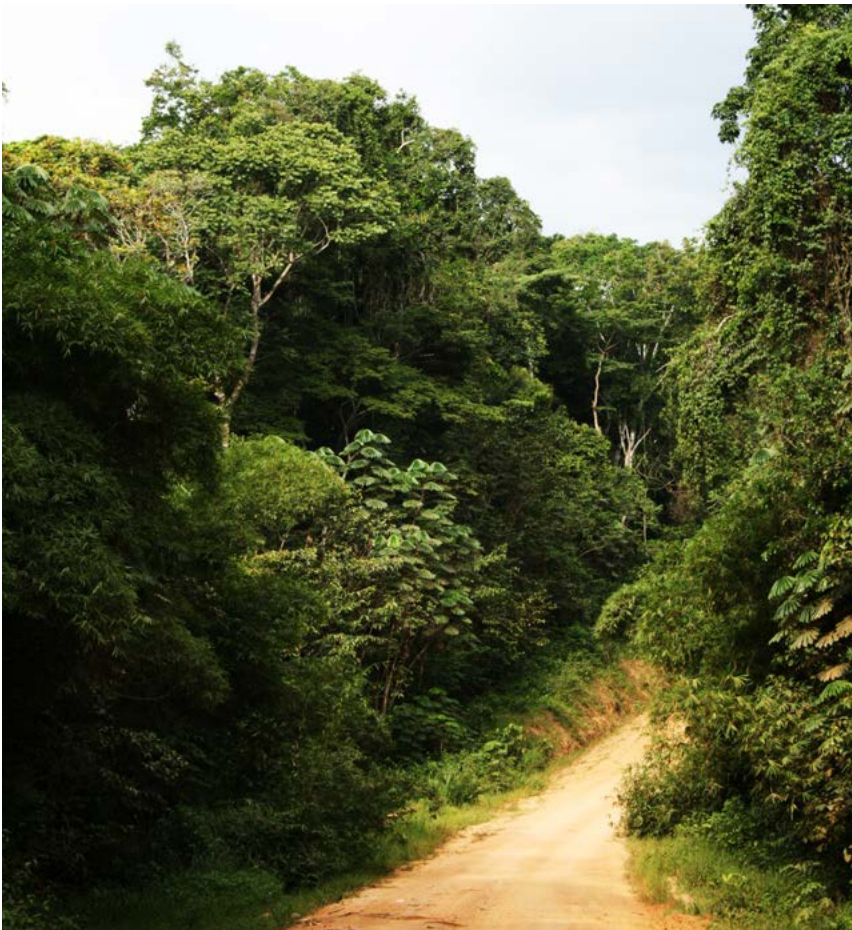
**Cocoa &  
Forests  
Initiative**



## PROTECTING FOREST LANDSCAPES

Cocoonect CFI Company Initial Action Plans  
*Ghana & Cote d'Ivoire*

The future wellbeing of farmer livelihoods and global cocoa production are closely aligned with the last remaining rainforests and (micro-)climatic conditions in West Africa. The Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI) is a public-private partnership between the governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana and the cocoa industry to end deforestation and promote forest conservation in cocoa landscapes. The initiative is organized by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), IDH - the Sustainable Trade Initiative, and The Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit (ISU). Additional information about CFI is provided in section IV.



*“Once, there was a bee. Every day, the bee would fly to the same yellow flower fields as the butterflies, hummingbirds, and other small animals to collect the nectar and enjoy the company of the others. At the end of this yellow landscape, a dark forest stood out on the horizon. One day, while the other animals were gathering around the same yellow flowers, the curious little bee chose differently; it decided to enter the dark forests in search of something new. Soon after entering the labyrinth of tall trees, the bee realized that no flowers nor colours were to be found in this shady undergrowth. But.... when looking up, the bee could distinguish a fresh green canopy in the distance with countless orange, blue, red, and white flowers. But the canopy was far away, and the bee was only little... Therefore, the next day, the bee convinced the butterflies and hummingbirds to join. With each other's support, the small creatures managed to fly from branch to branch, higher and higher, until they found themselves in a blanket of colourful leaves and flowers. From that day on, the bees, hummingbirds, and butterflies decided to work together in search of new adventures and flowers, and many other animals followed.”*



Cocoanect aims to be the bee in CFI; curious, hardworking, and creator of innovative solutions to tackle deforestation in the cocoa supply chain. At the same time, we recognize the complexity of deforestation issues and the fact that we cannot achieve this alone; we need to build strategic partnerships with farmer communities and other supply chain actors to realize scalable interventions at the landscape level. We are grateful to the other CFI partners for their collaborative efforts in our shared mission.

### III. OVERVIEW OF COCOANECT'S ACTION PLAN

Over the years, Cocoanect has initiated various approaches to promote environmental conservation in cocoa areas;

- In 2014, our company pioneered with Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) with cocoa farmers, where farmers near the Tai National Park in Cote d'Ivoire received agroforestry trainings and an agri-input package in return for reforestation of farm land near the Hana river, a biodiversity hotspot.
- In 2016, we launched the Procarbooh project to introduce improved cookstoves to Ivorian farmer communities; stoves that consume 45% less biofuel to reduce pressure on forest resources.
- In 2019, we started to explore reforestation of abandoned and polluted goldmine sites with farmer communities in Ghana. The idea being restored sites will allow cocoa agroforestry to develop over the longer term.



Reforestation (right) in a cocoa farm (left) in our Hana PES project.

Under CFI, we will continue to up-scale current initiatives and pilot new methodologies. Being a project implementer for chocolate makers, most of our CFI activities are included in the CFI Action Plans of our clients. On top of these, the below key activities are planned for 2019-2022 in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire;

#### 1. Forest protection and restoration;

- Map 100% of the cocoa farms in our own supply chains in Ghana and Ivory Coast.
- Exclude all farmers who grow cocoa in protected areas.
- Sensitization of at least 10.000 farmers on the latest national forestry laws and policies.

#### 2. Sustainable production;

- Train at least 20.000 farmers on good environmental practices, including agroforestry and climate-smart practices.
- Distribute at least 300.000 multi-purpose trees.
- Promote the inclusion of at least 2.500 farmers in financial services.

#### 3. Community engagement and social inclusion;

- Support at least 30 communities with forest restoration, gender empowerment and youth-focused activities.
- Protecting/restoring 50 hectares of forest through community-based management projects.
- Distribute at least 500 improved cookstoves to reduce pressure on forests.

For more details, please check our CFI Action Plan tables in annex 1.

#### **IV. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

##### **BOLD PUBLIC-PRIVATE ACTION: THE COCOA & FORESTS INITIATIVE<sup>1</sup>**

The governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana and the world's leading cocoa and chocolate companies signed landmark agreements in November 2017 to end deforestation and promote forest restoration and protection in the cocoa supply chain.

This new public-private partnership – called the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI) – has been organized by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), IDH - the Sustainable Trade Initiative, and The Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit (ISU). The Prince of Wales launched CFI in March 2017 in London. The Frameworks for Action for Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana define core commitments, verifiable actions, and timebound targets required for a deforestation-free and forest-positive supply chain.

The Governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana play a critical leadership role in establishing the national strategy, enabling policy environment, and governance structure for CFI implementation. They ensure that CFI is linked to similar initiatives with other commodities, and fully aligned with the national REDD+ Strategy and other relevant national strategies and plans. They provide key operational guidance, and baseline economic, environmental, and social data, to help companies identify and plan the most effective and efficient private investment activities for CFI.

The Governments have prepared comprehensive national implementation plans (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana) that outline key public sector priorities, actions and timelines, following extensive consultation with all stakeholders. During the first year of CFI, the Governments have launched work on the key building blocks for successful CFI implementation, including important revisions to the legal framework for sustainable forest management, preparation of up-to-date boundary maps of protected areas, and collection of socio-economic and land use data for the priority investment areas.

Thirty-three companies, accounting for about 85% of global cocoa usage, have now joined CFI. Each company has agreed to prepare a detailed individual action plan that spells out the specific actions it will take in 2018-2022 to deliver the commitments set out in the Framework. Each company will decide for itself how to best support the achievement of the Framework objectives, based on their role in the supply chain, their corporate strategic priorities, and their cocoa sustainability goals.

Almost all companies have now completed initial action plans. These initial plans will be updated and finalized in 2019 after the governments have completed the ongoing legal and operational policy changes, the mapping of protected areas, baseline data collection, and other building blocks needed for full investment programming.

Given their unique role in the cocoa supply chain, the three retailer companies collaborated on the development of a common action plan. They agreed on collective actions to deliver on their CFI commitments through their engagement with trading partners and suppliers.

CFI has been supported by several global development partners, including the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the Global Environment Facility, and the Green Commodities Program of the United Nations Development Program. CFI is coordinated closely with a wide range of global and local environmental organizations and partnerships, including the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020, Amsterdam Declaration Partnership, Partnerships for Forests, the Rainforest Alliance, and World Resources Institute.

1. Arysta Callivoire, Barry Callebaut, Blommer Chocolate Company, Cargill Cocoa and Chocolate, Cémoi, Chocolats Halba, Cocioanect, Cococo Chocolatiers, ECOM Group, Fazer, Ferrero, General Mills Inc., Godiva Chocolatier Inc., Guittard Chocolate Company, The Hershey Company, Indcresa, Lindt & Sprüngli Group, Marks & Spencer Food, Mars Wrigley Confectionery, Meiji Co. Ltd., Mondelez International, Nestlé, Olam Cocoa, PBC Limited, Sainsbury's, SIAT, Tesco, Toms Group, Touton, Tree Global, Unilever, Valrhona, and J.H. Whittaker & Sons 2 The actions pending further information are marked "to be determined" in the initial company action plans.

## WHAT ARE THE KEY COMMITMENTS IN CFI?

The Frameworks are structured around three critical themes of (1) forest protection and restoration, (2) sustainable production and farmers' livelihoods, and (3) community engagement and social inclusion.

The first priority is the protection and restoration of forests that have been degraded. To this end, the governments and companies have pledged no further conversion of forest land for cocoa production and have committed to the phased elimination of illegal cocoa production and sourcing in protected areas.

Both countries are introducing a differentiated approach for improved management of forest reserves, based on the level of degradation of forests. Up-to-date maps on forest cover and land-use, socio-economic data on cocoa farmers, and detailed operational guidelines covering forest management and land-use are being developed and will be publicly disclosed.

To ensure effective implementation and monitoring of these commitments, companies have pledged to develop verifiable monitoring systems for traceability from farm to the first purchase point for their own purchases of cocoa, and to work with governments to ensure an effective national framework for traceability encompassing all traders in the supply chain.

The next critical priority is sustainable agricultural production and increased farmer incomes. These are essential pre-requisites for reducing pressure for agricultural encroachment into forests and strengthening the resilience of cocoa farmers to climate change.

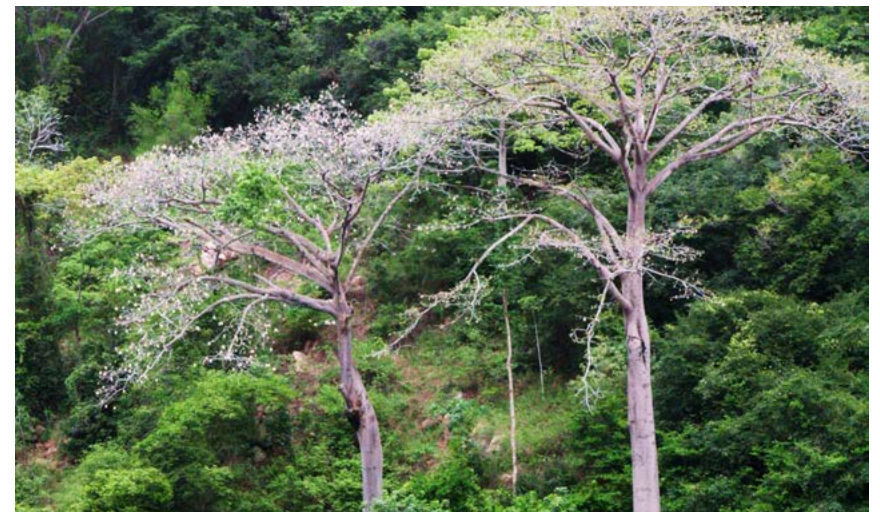
The governments and companies have agreed to accelerate investment in long-term productivity of cocoa in order to grow "more cocoa on less land."

Key actions include: provision of improved planting materials, training in good agricultural practices, soil fertility, land tenure

reform, and capacity building of farmers' organizations. Sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers will be accelerated through food crop diversification, agricultural inter-cropping, and development of mixed agro-forestry systems and shade-grown cocoa.

The final area of focus is strong community engagement and social inclusion, with a particular focus on women and youth. The governments and companies have committed to full and effective consultation and participation of cocoa farmers in the design and implementation of key actions, and promotion of community-based management models for forest protection and restoration. The governments will assess and mitigate the social impacts and risks of any proposed land-use changes on affected communities.

The set of public-private actions represent unprecedented commitments on forest protection and restoration, and sustainable cocoa production and farmer livelihoods. These combined actions, which are aligned with the Paris Climate Agreement, will play a crucial role in sequestering carbon stocks and thereby addressing global and local climate change.



## ANNEX 1

Note: This initial plan will be finalized in the course of 2019 once the governments of Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire have provided the necessary information on upcoming policies and field data, including boundary maps for protected forests and updated operational guidance about land-use in degraded forest areas. Therefore, some actions in the table below are to be determined (TBD). All actions that are included in the Initial Action Plans of our clients are indicated as "In CFI Action Plan of our clients".

### COTE D'IVOIRE

Commitments	Actions	To be delivered by 2022	Comments
<b>Forest Protection and Restoration</b>			
1. No further conversion of any forest land (as defined under national regulations, and using HCS and HCV methodologies) for cocoa production.	1.1 Conduct farm mapping within direct supply chain to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest lands, National Parks and	10,000 farms mapped	
	1.2 Conduct deforestation risk assessments in all direct sourcing areas	hectares (ha) included in deforestation risk assessment: TBD	
2. Elimination of cocoa production and sourcing in National Parks and Reserves in line with promulgation and enforcement of national forest policy and development of alternative livelihoods for affected farmers	2.1 Adopt and publish a system for excluding farmers in the direct supply chain with cocoa	Yes	
	2.2 All farms found in National Parks and Reserves reported to government	% farms in Natl Parks & Reserves reported to government: TBD	
	2.3 Support cocoa farmers' transition to alternative livelihoods	# of total farmers in protected areas receiving assistance for alternative livelihoods: TBD	
3. No sourcing of cocoa from National Parks and Reserves through companies' traceable direct sourcing programs .	3.1 Implement traceability tools/technology to ensure no cocoa purchases originate from National Parks or Reserves (all forest areas)	100% of direct sourced cocoa is traceable to farm-level	
4. A differentiated approach based on the level of degradation of forests for classified Forests will be developed and translated into a national forest restoration strategy	4.1 Support the restoration of Classified Forests by working with cocoa farmers, the government and the forestry industry to implement contracts for mixed agroforestry as a restoration and livelihoods intervention	# farmer 'agroforestry restoration' contracts signed: TBD	
		# hectares restored in classified Forests: TBD	

5. Legal protection and management status for the remaining forests of Côte d'Ivoire in the Rural Domain	5.1 Cooperate with the government on enforcement to prevent deforestation in the legally protected forest estate (rural domain)	# hectares of forest in rural domain protected	In CFI Action Plan of our clients
6. Up-to-date maps on forest cover and landuse for the different forests, and socioeconomic data on cocoa farmers developed and publicly disclosed, and detailed operational guidelines prepared	6.1 Support the government's forthcoming adaptive management plans for different forest areas to benefit the livelihoods of forest-dependent cocoa communities	Yes	
	6.2 Participate in the development and operation of land-use and land-use planning at national and regional levels by sharing existing land use maps with government	TBD	
7. Public enforcement of the new Forest Code and its subsequent guidelines, and public sector governance will be strengthened	7.1 Promote and participate in awarenessraising campaigns to educate farmers on the new Forest Code	5,000 farmers reached at awareness events	
	7.2 Update farmer engagement materials and training with the revised Forest Code	Yes	
8. Public-private collaboration to mobilize resources for forest protection and restoration	8.1 Mobilize finance for forest protection and restoration	\$ mobilized towards forest protection and restoration: TBD	
		50 hectares with forest protection and restoration financing	
		100 farmers participating in PES contracts	
9. Public-private collaboration to identify good practices, technical guidance and incentive mechanisms for forest restoration and agroforestry	9.1 Support distribution and planting of multipurpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	200,000 multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm planting	
		50 hectares cocoa agroforestry developed	
	9.2 Support distribution and planting of native trees for off-farm restoration (reforestation)	35,000 native trees planted off-farm	
		50 ha of forest area restored	

10. Government creation, in collaboration with all stakeholders, of a public-private fund to support financing of protection and restoration of HCV forest areas.	10.1 Support the creation of the publicprivate forest conservation and rehabilitation fund	\$ contributed to fund: TBD	
<b>Sustainable Production and Farmers' Livelihoods</b>			
11. Promote investment in long-term productivity of cocoa in environmentally suitable areas in order to grow "more cocoa on less land"	11.1 Distribute improved cocoa planting material	# improved seedlings distributed to farmers: TBD	
	11.2 Establish and/or provide cocoa nurseries with improved cocoa planting material	# of nurseries with improved cocoa seedlings: TBD	
	11.3 Train farmers in Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs)	10,000 of farmers trained in GAPs	
	11.4 Support cocoa farm rehabilitation	# of hectares of cocoa rehabilitated: TBD	
12. Promote sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers	12.1 Promote farm-level crop diversification	# farmers applying crop diversification	In CFI Action Plan of our clients
	12.2 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	200,000 multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm planting	
13. Promote financial inclusion and innovation to deepen farmers' access to working capital and investment funds for production and farm renovation	13.1 Promote farmer savings	1,000 farmers in supply chain with a savings account	
		# farmers participating in VSLA groups	In CFI Action Plan of our clients
	13.2 Offer financial products to farmers	2500 farmers offered a financial product	



14. Improve supply chain mapping, with the goal of 100% of cocoa sourcing traceable from farm to first purchase point. An action plan will be developed for traceability, which will be implemented step-by-step to achieve full traceability and verification, applicable to all by end-2019.	14.1 Conduct farm mapping within direct supply chain to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest lands, National Parks and Reserves, and Classified Forests	10,000 farms mapped within direct supply chain	
	14.2 Implement traceability system to farm level in direct supply chain	100% of direct sourced cocoa traceable from individual farms to first purchase point	
<b>Social Inclusion and Community Engagement</b>			
15. Full and effective information sharing, consultation, and informed participation of cocoa farmers and their communities who are affected by proposed land-use changes.	15.1 Organize cocoa community consultations on the implementation of the Frameworks for on the implementation of the Frameworks for Action	100 communities with consultation sessions	
16. Promote community-based management models for forest protection and restoration	16.1 Establish and/or support communitybased natural resource management programs for forest restoration/protection	20 of cocoa communities with active forest restoration and protection program	
		50 hectares under CBNRM	
17. Development of action plans for forest protection and restoration, and sustainable agricultural intensification that are gender and youth sensitive.	17.1 Develop forest protection & restoration and agriculture intensification action plans that are gender and youth sensitive	20 cocoa communities with gender-focused programs	
		20 cocoa communities with youth-focused programs	

## GHANA

Commitments	Actions	To be delivered by 2022	Comments
<b>Forest Protection and Restoration</b>			
1. No further conversion of any forest land (as defined under national regulations, and using HCS and HCV methodologies for cocoa production.	1.1 Conduct farm mapping within supply chain to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest land	10,000 farms mapped	
	1.2 Conduct deforestation risk assessments in all sourcing areas.	# hectares included in risk assessment TBD	
2. No production and sourcing of cocoa from National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, and Wildlife Resource Reserves, except from farms with existing legal status.	2.1 All farms found in protected areas will be reported to the Government	Yes	
	2.2 Adopt and publish a system for excluding farmers in the supply chain with cocoa production in protected areas.	Yes	
3. A differentiated approach for Forest Reserves will be adopted, based on level of degradation; with elimination of sourcing of cocoa in less degraded reserves (Cat.1) as of 31 December 2019; and production and sourcing for a period up to 25 years through MTS in more degraded reserves (Cat. 2).	3.1 End sourcing from all farms identified within Category 1 Forest Reserve areas by 31 December 2019.	Yes	
	3.2 Support farmers in Category 2 Forest Reserve areas in their restoration and reforestation programs	# hectares of Category 2 Forest Reserve areas restored: TBD	
4. In highly degraded off reserve forest lands, cocoa production and sourcing will continue, supported by climate smart cocoa and MTS.	4.1 Train farmers in off-reserve forest lands in CSC production including cocoa agroforestry systems	TBD	
	4.2 Train farmers in Modified Taungya System (MTS)	TBD	
5. In all areas, a multi-stakeholder landscape approach will be followed, with an initial focus on the six Climate-Smart Cocoa Hotspot Intervention Areas as defined under GCFRP.	5.1 Join one/several HIA(s) in the cocoasourcing area	2 HIA(s) joined in cocoa sourcing areas	
	5.2 Implement GCFRP CSC Good-Practice Guidelines with farmers within the HIAs	3000 farmers within HIAs have adopted CSC best practices	

6. Up-to-date maps on forest cover and landuse, socio-economic data on cocoa farmers, and detailed operational guidelines covering Category 1 and 2 reserves, will all be developed and publicly disclosed.	6.1 Share maps and data with appropriate government bodies	TBD	
	6.2 Participate in the development of operational guidelines for Category 1 and 2 Forest Reserves	TBD	
7. Land and tree tenure reforms, and benefit sharing arrangement to incentivize land owners and users to retain naturally regenerated trees will be accelerated, including approval of CREMA mechanism.	7.1 Support farmers with tree registration	20,000 trees registered	
	7.2 Support cocoa farmers to acquire land (tenure) documentation	# farmers with secure land titles TBD	
8. Public sector forest law enforcement and governance will be strengthened	8.1 Promote awareness-raising campaigns to educate farmers on forest law enforcement and tree tenure provisions	5,000 farmers reached at awareness events	
9. Public-private collaboration to mobilize new sources of funding for forest protection and restoration, and to incentivize farmers adoption of environmentally sustainable cocoa production will be developed.	9.1 Mobilize finance for forest protection and restoration	Amount of \$ mobilized towards forest protection and restoration: TBD	
		# hectares with forest protection & restoration financing TBD	
		# farmers participating in PES contracts TBD	
10. Public-private collaboration will be enhanced to identify good practices and technical guidance for forest conservation and restoration, shade grown cocoa, and MTS in Forest Reserves.	10.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	100,000 multipurpose trees distributed for on-farm planting	
		50 hectares of cocoa agroforestry	
	10.2 Support distribution and planting of native trees for off-farm restoration (reforestation)	50 native trees planted off-farm	
		25 hectares of forest area restored	
10.3 Train farmers in Modified Taungya System (MTS)	# farmers trained in MTS: TBD		

<b>Sustainable Production and Farmer Livelihoods</b>			
11. Promote investment in long-term productivity of high quality cocoa in environmentally sustainable manner and grow “more cocoa on less land.”	11.1 Distribute improved cocoa planting material	400,000 improved seedlings distributed to farmers	
	11.2 Establish and/or provide cocoa nurseries with improved cocoa planting material	10 nurseries with improved cocoa seedlings	
	11.3 Train farmers and producer organizations in the latest Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs)	10,000 farmers trained in GAPs	
	11.4 Support cocoa farm rehabilitation	360 of hectares of cocoa rehabilitated	
12. Develop implementation plans, including mapping of exact areas to intensify establishment of shaded cocoa landscapes in line with GCFRP, with the promotion of Climate Smart Cocoa and the national Climate Smart Cocoa Standard.	12.1 Promote the Climate Smart Cocoa Standard	10,000 of farmers adopting CSC	
13. Promote sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers.	13.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	100,000 multipurpose trees distributed for on-farm planting	
		50 hectares of cocoa agroforestry	
	13.2 Promote farm-level crop diversification	# farmers applying crop diversification TBD	
14. Promote financial inclusion and innovation to deepen farmers’ access to working capital and investment funds required for production and cocoa farm rehabilitation and renovation.	14.1 Promote expansion of farmer savings	# farmers in supply chain with a savings account	In CFI Action Plan of our clients
		# farmers participating in VSLA groups	In CFI Action Plan of our clients
	14.2 Offer financial products to farmers	1,000 farmers offered a financial product	

15. Improve supply chain mapping, with 100% of cocoa sourcing traceable from farm to first purchase point. An action plan will be developed that maps out key principles, steps, and milestones to achieve this step, encompassing all national and international traders.	15.1 Conduct mapping to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries polygon data	10,000 farms mapped within direct supply chain	
	15.2 Implement traceability system to farm level in 100% of supply chain by end-2019	100% cocoa supply traceable from individual farms to first purchase point	
<b>Social Inclusion and Community Engagement</b>			
16. Full and effective information sharing, consultation, and informed participation of cocoa farmers and their communities who are affected by proposed land-use changes.	16.1 Organize cocoa community consultations on the implementation of the Frameworks for Action	100 communities with consultation sessions	
17. Promote community-based management models for forest protection and restoration.	17.1 Establish and/or support communitybased natural resource management (CBNRM) programs for forest restoration/protection	# cocoa communities with active forest restoration and protection program: TBD	
		# hectares under CBNRM: TBD	
18. Development of action plans for forest protection and restoration, and sustainable agricultural intensification that are gender and youth sensitive.	18.1 Develop forest protection & restoration and agriculture intensification action plans that are youth and gender sensitive	10 cocoa communities with gender-focused programs	
		10 cocoa communities with youth-focused programs	