



Valrhona: Cocoa & Forests Initiative Ghana 2020 progress report

The Cocoa & Forests Initiative: Collective Action to End Cocoa-Related Deforestation

The governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana and 35 leading cocoa and chocolate companies, representing 85% of global cocoa usage, have joined together in the [Cocoa & Forests Initiative](#) to end deforestation and restore forest areas. Their combined actions play a crucial role in sequestering carbon stocks in West African forests and addressing climate change, in line with the Paris Climate Agreement. The Cocoa & Forests Initiative delivers on Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Action) and 15 (Life on Land).

The Cocoa & Forests Initiative is a public private partnership based on frameworks for action ([Côte d'Ivoire](#) and [Ghana](#)) and action plans for the private sector ([Côte d'Ivoire](#) and [Ghana](#)) and public sector ([Côte d'Ivoire](#) and [Ghana](#)) that spell out commitments to:

- protect and restore forests,
- promote sustainable cocoa production and farmers' livelihoods,
- engage communities and boost social inclusion.

In 2020 Valrhona worked towards achieving our CFI commitments in Ghana in the following ways:

Forest protection and restoration

In 2018, we financed the polygon mapping of 1328 farms belonging to 760 farmers in eight communities in Tarkwa, situated in the country's Western Region. This level of traceability is vital in enabling us to eradicate deforestation from our supply chain and to take targeted action to preserve forests. At the time, a total of 818 producers were supplying us with cocoa in Ghana via our partner FEDCO. In 2019, however, our supplier base evolved somewhat: the number of producers providing us with cocoa expanded from 818 to 1408 and the total number of communities grew to 11. Three of the original eight communities were moreover replaced with new ones. We are now working on updating our farm boundary mapping to include these new producers' farms. We have almost finished mapping of 100% of the farmers who supply us. As 46 farmers were not available when we carried out our mapping and registration drive, we plan to map these remaining farmers at the beginning 2021. Today, 100% of our Ghanaian cocoa is traceable to from individual farms to first purchase point.

Sustainable production and farmer's livelihoods

Over the past few years, our partner FEDCO has provided producers with training in order to boost sustainable production.

The training program covers:

1. Good Agricultural Practices (GAP):
 - Establishing and maintaining a cocoa farm,
 - Optimization of soil fertility and structure,
 - crop protection and storage of agrochemical,
 - IPM
 - Farm sanitation management
 - pruning, weeding and removal of disease pods

2. Harvest and post-harvest practices

In 2020, 1224 farmers attended GAP training, and 1210 training in harvest and post-harvest practices.

CFI Company Progress Report Tracking Table for Ghana

Commitments	Actions	Indicator	2022 Target	# through direct investment (Oct 2019-Sept 2020)	# on behalf of clients (Oct 2019-Sept 2020)	# Total through direct investment (since 2018)	# total on behalf of clients (since 2018)
Forest Protection and Restoration							
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	# of cocoa plots mapped in direct supply chain	100% 813			100% 2068 Cumulative: 2068 farms, belonging to 1396 producers. The number of producers, and thus plots, supplying us has increased since we set our mapping target in 2018. This is why this figure is a 72% increase on our 2022 target.	
		# and % of cocoa farms mapped in direct supply chain	100%			100% 2068 Cumulative: 2068 farms, belonging to 1396 producers. The number of producers, and thus plots, supplying us has increased since we set our mapping target in 2018. This is why this figure is a 72% increase on our 2022 target.	
	1.2 Conduct deforestation risk assessments in all sourcing areas.	# of hectares in the direct supply chain with deforestation risk assessments completed	TBC	0			

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 Implement traceability tools/technology to ensure no cocoa purchases originate from National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, and Wildlife Resource Reserves (all forest areas)	% of directly sourced cocoa traceable from the farm to the first purchase point					
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 Support farmers in Category 2 Forest Reserve areas in their restoration and reforestation programs	# hectares of Category 2 Forest Reserve areas restored:					
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	# farmers trained in CSC best practices	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	4.2 Train farmers in Modified Taungya System (MTS)	# farmers trained in MTS	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>
			<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>
			<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
			<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>
			<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>
5. 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.	5.1 Support farmers with tree registration	# trees registered					
	5.2 Support cocoa farmers to acquire land (tenure) documentation	# and % of farmers with land tenure agreements/documentation etc. obtained via company support	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
			<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>
6. Public sector forest law enforcement and governance will be strengthened	6.1 Promote awareness-raising campaigns to educate farmers on forest law enforcement and tree tenure provisions	# farmers informed, trained, and / or consulted on forest policy/law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>
			<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
			<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>
7. 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.	7.1 Mobilize finance for forest protection and restoration	# Individuals receiving PES: <i>New</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
				<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>
				<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>
		# Individuals receiving PES: <i>Total Receiving</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>		
			<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>		

			F	F	F			
8. 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.	8.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	# farmers applying agroforestry	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	
			M	M	M	M	M	
			F	F	F	F	F	
		# multipurpose trees distributed for on-farm planting						
		# hectares cocoa agroforestry in development						
	8.2 Support distribution and planting of native trees for off-farm restoration (reforestation)	# of trees distributed for off-farm planting						
	# hectares of forest area restored off-reserve							
8.3 Train farmers in Modified Taungya System (MTS)	# farmers trained in MTS	Already reported 4.2						
Sustainable Production and Farmer Livelihoods								
9. Promote investment in long-term productivity of high quality cocoa in environmentally sustainable manner and grow "more cocoa on less land."	9.1 Distribute improved cocoa planting material	# improved cocoa seedlings distributed to farmers						
	9.2 Train farmers and producer organizations in the latest Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs)	# of farmers reached by GAP training programs	Total 640	Total: 1224 producers. Training financed by our supplier partner FEDCO	Total	Total 1524 - training financed by our supplier partner FEDCO	Total	
				The number of producers supplying us has increased since we set our training target in 2018.		The number of producers supplying us has increased since we set our training target in 2018.		
			M	M	M	M	M	
		F	F	F	F	F		
10. Promote sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers.	10.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	# multipurpose trees distributed for on-farm planting	Already reported 8.1					
		# hectares cocoa agroforestry in development	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	

	10.2 Promote farm-level crop diversification	# individuals participating in additional Income Generating Activities (IGA's)	M	M	M	M	M
			F	F	F	F	F
11. Promote financial inclusion and innovation to deepen farmers' access to working capital and investment funds required for production and cocoa farm rehabilitation and renovation.	11.1 Promote expansion of farmer savings	# and % individuals in the current reporting year enrolled in a formal financial products and services (loans, insurance, digital payments, and savings [bank/mobile]) with support from companies (excluding cocoa bean pre-financing)	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
			M	M	M	M	M
			F	F	F	F	F
		# of members of VSLA groups in the current year	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
			M	M	M	M	M
			F	F	F	F	F
	# of VSLA groups in the current year						
12. 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.	12.1 Conduct mapping to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries polygon data	# farms mapped within direct supply chain	Already reported 1.1				
	12.2 Implement traceability system to farm level in 100% of supply chain by end-2019	% cocoa supply traceable from individual farms to first purchase point	Already reported 2.1				
Social Inclusion and Community Engagement							
13. Full and effective information sharing, consultation, and informed participation of cocoa farmers and their communities who are affected by proposed land-use changes.	13.1 Organize cocoa community consultations on the implementation of the Frameworks for Action	# farmers informed, trained, and / or consulted on forest policy/law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration	Already reported 6.1				
14. Promote community-based management models for forest protection and restoration.	14.1 Establish and/or support community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) programs for forest restoration/protection	# of cocoa communities with active forest restoration and protection program					
		# hectares under CBNRM					
			Total	Total	Total	Total	Total

15. Development of action plans for forest protection and restoration, and sustainable agricultural intensification that are gender and youth sensitive.	15.1 Develop forest protection & restoration and agriculture intensification action plans that are youth and gender sensitive	<i># of individuals participating in women's empowerment projects and activities</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>
			<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>
			<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
		<i># of individuals participating in youth focused projects and activities (age 15-35)</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>
			<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>
# Farmers in direct supply/ member sustainability programs			1442				