



Cocoa – working together for a sustainable cocoa sector

Protecting forests, increasing incomes, putting an end to exploitative child labour

Did you know that ...

... Germany consumes 9 kilograms of chocolate per person per year? And that about 62 per cent of the cocoa in chocolate products sold in Germany, such as chocolate spread and chocolate drinks, comes from certified crops? Germany is also one of the largest processors of raw cocoa and the largest exporter of chocolate products.

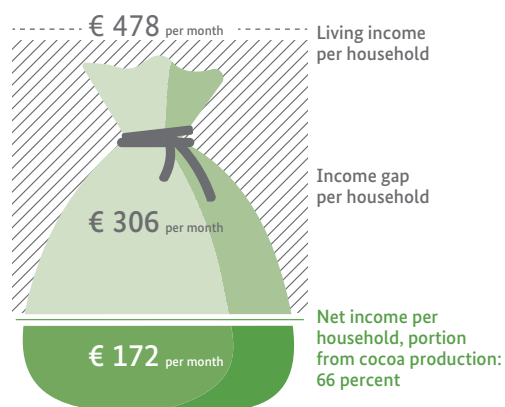
The largest share of worldwide cocoa production comes from West Africa. Cocoa is also grown in Central and South America, the Caribbean and a few regions in Asia. **5.5 million people** work directly in cocoa production, providing the livelihoods for **40 million people**.

The largest cocoa producer is **Côte d'Ivoire** at 46 per cent of total cocoa production, followed by **Ghana** at 17 per cent. 90 per cent of all cocoa is grown by small-holder farmers. The income of cocoa farmers is usually well below the poverty line. Low incomes are partly due to low and fluctuating cocoa prices. Also, there is a lack of alternative sources of income and functioning organisational structures. To increase their incomes, cocoa farmers hardly have a choice: they have to increase production. This leads them to plant more and more areas with cocoa. As a result, formerly intact forests are increasingly being turned into agricultural crop land. This deforestation has far-reaching negative consequences, including its effect on our climate.

IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE ...

... 87 per cent of households are not earning a Living Income. One consequence of poverty is child labour. In Côte d'Ivoire, 540,000 children aged five to 17 are doing hazardous child labour, including in cocoa production.

Comparison of actual income and living income of a cocoa-producing family of seven in Côte d'Ivoire:



A cocoa-producing family in Côte d'Ivoire only achieves about one third of the living income.

Source: CIRES 2018, Living Income Report

What BMZ does

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) have jointly developed a 10-step plan for a sustainable cocoa sector. It states that smallholders must be lifted out of poverty, child labour must be eradicated and women must be empowered. It is also necessary to preserve forests, while governments must make a commitment to sustainable cocoa production. The federal government supports these efforts with numerous projects in cocoa-growing nations and by educating German consumers.

Forest protection

- ➔ BMZ supports the **Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI)** of the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), which fights to stop deforestation for cocoa production. The CFI brings together the key state institutions of Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Colombia to open a dialogue with private-sector actors.
- ➔ BMZ has also started an initiative for deforestation-free supply chains. For the first time, Côte d'Ivoire and Indonesia are establishing sustainable production regions in cooperation with NGOs, businesses and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, a German service provider in international development cooperation. Following this approach, the entire region is to be made more sustainable. This means that not just cocoa, but also other agricultural crops within the region are grown sustainably.

Partnerships and dialogue

- ➔ Changing the shortcomings of cocoa production requires a holistic approach. Therefore, BMZ and BMEL initiated the **German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa** in 2012. This forum is a multi-actor partnership of now more than 70 companies, associations, research institutions and other organisations from the cocoa and chocolate industry, food retail and civil society.

Real life examples

- ➔ The project **PRO-PLANTEURS** aims to professionalise 20,000 cocoa-producing family farms and their cooperatives in Côte d'Ivoire to help them increase their incomes and improve their living situations. The project provides additional income opportunities, particularly for women, for instance by growing other crops and keeping small livestock, giving families a more reliable food source. In addition, **PRO-PLANTEURS** contributes to making cocoa production more attractive for young farmers. **PRO-PLANTEURS** is a joint project of the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa, the Ivorian government and the German Federal government.
- ➔ In Côte d'Ivoire, BMZ is supporting a **green innovation centre** to improve the incomes and living conditions of cocoa-producing families. Successful approaches from ongoing projects like PRO-PLANTEURS are adopted and employment, diversification and local processing are fostered.



Supporting sustainable cocoa contributes to achieving these global sustainable development goals:



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