



# African Cocoa Initiative (ACI)



WCF/ACI aims to double cocoa productivity for 100,000 farm households through capacity-building of local & national institutions, and in doing so raise per capita income by 150-200%. The program is a public-private partnership, bringing together WCF, cocoa industry members, the Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) and U.S. Agency for International Development through its Global Development Alliance, in concert with key government institutions in the four countries of Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria. WCF/ACI is a \$13.5 million, 5-year program with the goal of institutionalizing effective public and private sector models to support sustainable productivity growth and improved food security on diversified cocoa farms in West and Central Africa.

## Contributing Partners

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the national governments of Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Cameroon and Nigeria, and Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH)

## WCF MEMBER COMPANIES

ADM Cocoa, Barry Callebaut, Blommer Chocolate Company, Cargill, Continaf BV, Ferrero, Guittard Chocolate Company, The Hershey Company, Kraft Foods, Lindt & Sprüngli, Mars, Incorporated, Nestlé, Noble Resources, and Olam International Ltd.

## Implementing Partners

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the Alliance of Cocoa Producing Countries (COPAL)

“Feed the Future, through USAID, is excited to contribute to the WCF African Cocoa Initiative. This alliance will help alleviate poverty and increase farmer incomes while strengthening government and regional institutions, advancing food security throughout West Africa.”

### MARGARET ENIS

Director of the Office of Markets, Partnerships and Innovation at USAID's Bureau for Food Security



Researchers at the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (CRIG)

## Program Goals

- » **Strengthening national public-private partnership (PPP) platforms for investing in agriculture and cocoa:** convening public and private sector partners to implement a comprehensive roadmap toward sustainable cocoa. National platforms will use resources and expertise to drive a cohesive cocoa sector support system.
- » **Improving cocoa productivity through better planting material:** performing an inventory of national planting material stock and mobilizing available certified, improved varieties to cocoa farmers. Supporting national research agencies in long-term research for more resilient and effective planting material.
- » **Enhancing public and private sector extension and farmer training services:** promoting best cocoa farming and management practices in national curricula and increasing the capacity of in-country public and private sector agriculture training services.
- » **Foster market-driven farming input supply services:** conducting an inventory of in-country certified agro-dealers and supporting expansion of more accessible and efficient channels to distribute much needed inputs like fertilizer.

## Cocoa in West & Central Africa

Approximately 70% of the world's cocoa currently comes from West and Central Africa. The vast majority of this cocoa is grown on nearly two million small, independent family farms that are less than 2 hectares (5 acres) in size. African cocoa farmers and their families face a number of challenges: low yields, pests and diseases that attack their cocoa trees, difficulty obtaining farming supplies, and limited access to credit.

Like other rural communities in Sub-Saharan Africa, cocoa-growing communities often have low levels of adult literacy, face health risks such as malaria and HIV/AIDS, and have difficulty with access to quality education for their children. WCF is empowering communities by training farmers, enhancing education, investing in families, and improving community health and welfare.

The World Cocoa Foundation works to address these issues in West and Central Africa through three flagship programs: WCF Cocoa Livelihoods Program, WCF ECHOES, and the WCF African Cocoa Initiative. WCF supports active programming in the following countries: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, and Liberia.

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The World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) is an international membership foundation that promotes a sustainable cocoa economy by providing cocoa farmers with the tools they need to grow more and better cocoa, market it successfully, and make greater profits. WCF's membership includes cocoa and chocolate manufacturers, processors, supply chain managers, and other companies worldwide, representing more than 80% of the global cocoa market.

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