



# Cocoa Livelihoods Program (CLP)



The WCF Cocoa Livelihoods Program (WCF/CLP) is working to double the income of approximately 200,000 smallholder, cocoa-growing households in West and Central Africa. The program increases farmer income while strengthening local service capacity, through three main objectives: Improve market efficiency and build capacity of farmers and farmer organizations; improve production and quality of cocoa at the farm level; improve farmers' competitiveness on diversified farms. Key activities include: professionalizing farmer organizations (recordkeeping, operating and cash budgets, leveraging resources); increasing access to inputs and improved planting material; providing financing mechanisms for improved access to credit; farmer business skills training; and business service centers.

“Through collective trading, I now obtain good prices for my cocoa. FFS has trained me to use fewer chemicals and convinced me of the importance of cleaning and pruning my farm. I sold more than 5 metric tons of graded cocoa last trading season compared to one ton in the past. My confidence has increased and I have more income.”

**PIUS AKINMUBORI**

President of Odode co-op union, Ondo State, Nigeria; received famer field school training (FFS)

## Contributing Partners

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

**MAJOR BRANDED MANUFACTURERS**

The Hershey Company, Kraft Foods and Mars, Incorporated

**COCOA PROCESSORS**

ADM Cocoa, Barry Callebaut, Blommer Chocolate Company and Cargill

**SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGERS & ALLIED INDUSTRIES**

Armajaro Trading Ltd., Ecom Agrocacao, Guittard Chocolate Company, Noble Resources, Olam International Ltd., Petra Foods Ltd., See's Candies, Inc., Starbucks Coffee Company and Transmar Commodity Group Ltd.

**OTHER KEY CONTRIBUTORS**

The German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH)

## Implementing Partners

World Cocoa Foundation (manager), Agribusiness Systems International-ACDI/VOCA, GIZ, SOCODEVI and TechnoServe, the Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD), Côte d'Ivoire Agence Nationale d'Appui au Développement Rural (ANADER), Cameroon National Board of Cocoa and Coffee (ONCC)



Bosome-Freho District, Ghana: Cocoa farmer groups receiving training in good agricultural practices share findings from three different community demonstration plots including diagnosing healthy versus diseased pods, planting with the proper distance between trees, and integrating shade and leguminous trees.

## 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.

## Program Accomplishments to Date

- » **Marketing efficiency is improved:** 36 farmer organizations, with over 12,500 members, to date trained in good governance practices, financial recordkeeping, expansion of membership, and strengthening commercial relationships. These farmer groups are seeing significant growth in membership and increase partnerships with input suppliers & cocoa buyers.
- » **Cocoa production efficiency and quality are improved at the farm level:** over 106,000 farmers have been trained in good agricultural practices and farm management skills; and have increased access to improved cocoa varieties and quality agro-inputs. These foundational trainings & services will contribute to significant yield gains above the average 400 kg/hectare of the cocoa smallholder.
- » **Farmers improve their competitiveness on diversified cocoa farms:** innovative Farmer Business Schools train farmers and integrate a farm management approach, increasing profit from cocoa and other diversified crops, and teach annual budgetary planning for household expenditures and nutritional needs. Business Service Centers (BSC) serve as a hub of services including credit and market information; training; and agricultural supplies for rural cocoa farmers. 12 BSCs have been established to date through public-private partnerships, and are hosted by agro-dealers & microfinance institutions to improve access to quality inputs.

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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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