Smallholder cocoa farming and preservation of forests in Côte d’Ivoire

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Context

Social and economic role of cocoa
- Orchards of more than 2 million ha;
- Most important export (35 – 40 % of the national earnings);
- About one million farmers;
- More than 6 million people rely on cocoa for a living.

Traditional cocoa farming
- Extensive cocoa production systems with low productivity based on the consumption of natural forests
- Highest contribution (38%) to deforestation among the main crops

Traditional systems no more sustainable
- Forest shortage
- Climate change
- Depletion of soil fertility
- Increasing damages of pests and diseases
- Environment, social and quality issues

How to guarantee cocoa supply?
- Adoption of intensive and sustainable cocoa systems

How to achieve this?
- Producers and cooperatives need to become more professional
Evolution of the Forest cover in Côte d’Ivoire

- 1990: 7,850,864
- 2000: 5,094,452 (-4.32%)
- 2015: 3,401,146 (-2.69%)
In Côte d’Ivoire, Agriculture represents 68% of deforestation. Here are the crops related to it:

- Cocoa: 38.9%
- Rubber: 23%
- Oil Palm: 11%
- Cashew: 7%
- Rice
- Coffee
- Vegetables
- Fruits
- Etc.

Main deforestation driver in Côte d’Ivoire.
« Transparence Cacao » :
Strategy of CEMOI for sustainable cocoa production and preservation of forests
The 4 pillars of the program

**Environment**
- End deforestation
- Natural resources conservation
- Agroforestry and Forest cover rehabilitation

**Economy**
- Improve smallholder livelihood
- Improve farmer revenue though diversification, improved yield and rehabilitation
- Help farmers and cooperatives to operate as Businesses
- Improve financial inclusion

**Quality**
- Traceability
- Healthy cocoa
- Fine flavour made in Cote d’Ivoire Cocoa
- Organic cocoa promotion

**Social**
- Fight against Child Labour
- Empower women
- Improve access to Education, Water, Electricity and Health for the communities
Our strategy

Transforming the rural environment by contributing to the emergence of a new class of entrepreneurial cocoa producers and professional service providers integrating cocoa quality and environmental preservation into the creation of wealth.

- **Professionalization**: knowing and integrating sustainability issues in the cocoa supply chain
  - Cocoa farmers
  - Farmers organization

- **Mapping / geo-localization of cocoa farms**

- **Traceability of supplies**

- **Intensification / productivity**
  - Diversification of orchards
  - Diversification / increasing income

- **Stabilize cocoa production systems**
- **Reduce pressure on the remaining forests**
- **Eliminate deforestation in the cocoa supply chain**
Our projects in progress

- 9 projects
- 30 cooperatives
- 18,000 farmers
- 45,000 ha

- A team of 25 technicians/agronomists
CEMOI – P4F project

Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung

TechnoServe

ECOTIERRA

NURSURYMEN → Agroforestry plants

FARMERS

Capacity Building

COOPERATIVES

Capacity Building

Premium price

Deforestation free cocoa

Traceability system

Nursery coaching

Agroforestry demo plot

World Agroforestry Centre

SODEFOR

Climate change and forest protection sensitization
Professionalization of cocoa farmers

- Training farmers on Good Agricultural, Environment and Social Practices in Farmers Field School (FFS)
- Diagnosis of cocoa farms and coaching producers for the rehabilitation and intensification of their farms
- Promote agroforestry models as techniques for the intensification/diversification of cocoa farms and preservation of environment and biodiversity into cocoa farms
- Training farmers on agricultural entrepreneurship
- Connect farmers to bank and create account for farmers
To allow cooperatives to adopt and perpetuate the tools/approaches developed:

- Enhance governance
- Enhance financial and accounting management
- Develop suitable services for members (inputs, pruning, pesticides application, tree seedlings production for agroforestry, etc.)
- Access to bank and finance/credit
Key activities by component

❑ Traceability of supplies

➢ Buying cocoa beans from legal areas:
  o Identification and registration of cocoa farmers / cooperative
  o Mapping and geo-localization of cocoa farms
  o Sensitization through social and environment responsibility committees
  o Forest cover monitoring
Main achievements of the program to date

- 30 cooperatives professionalized
- 84 nurserymen empowered
- 15 000 farmers trained
- Coaching of 3 000 in progress
- 58 000 seedlings of 34 tree species in nurseries