



Amsterdam Declarations Partnership

Towards deforestation-free
sustainable commodities

“We are all Atlas 2”: strengthening collaboration towards a deforestation- free, sustainable commodity production and trade

AD Partnership Multi-Stakeholder Meeting Thursday 23rd of June, 2022,
Confederation of Danish Industry, Industriens Hus (Industry House), H.C. Andersens Boulevard 18,
1553, Copenhagen, Denmark

Co-organisers:

Organisation	Contact person	Remark
IDH, The Sustainable Trade Initiative	Renske Aarnoudse	Moderator
IDH, The Sustainable Trade Initiative	Jonas Mva Mva	Moderator
VOICE Network	Antonie Fountain	
Tropenbos International	Jinke van Dam	

Event summary

Climate change, halting deforestation and biodiversity loss, and sustainable food systems demand wide societal support for change. Respect for the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities and smallholder producers is a core element of this societal support for change. Several key consumer markets are developing due diligence and responsible investment requirements for agricultural commodity supply chain companies. We need to work in partnerships with governments, private sector, civil society organizations, farmers, and Indigenous Peoples' organizations to overcome the challenges together. In support of the transition needed towards deforestation-free, sustainable production also collective, additional support measures are needed.

Denmark, chair of the Amsterdam Declarations Partnership is organising an in-person Amsterdam Declarations Partnership (ADP) Multi-Stakeholder Meeting on Thursday 23rd of June in Copenhagen, Denmark. The event aims to share lessons and discuss challenges regarding collaboration and inclusive action and identify supportive actions to address the challenges. The program includes plenary sessions with (a) high level opening; (b) Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and small-holder farmers; (c) finance; and (d) commodity break-out sessions on cattle (beef & leather), cocoa, palm oil and soya. **This background brief focuses on the break-out sessions on cocoa.**

Sustainable cocoa: what is the problem?

Over the last decades the largest cocoa producing countries Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana have seen strong deforestation rates. More than 80% of the primary forests have been lost and forest loss still continues to date. Agriculture and cocoa production in particular are key drivers of deforestation. Both countries have committed to halting deforestation, forest preservation and reforestation. On top of that, together with the cocoa private industry, they launched the Cocoa & Forests Initiative in 2017, emphasizing the need to delink cocoa production from deforestation. Despite these commitments and the ongoing investments the challenges remain vast and forest loss and degradation continue while cocoa production areas further expand, in the mentioned two countries but also in other countries in West-Africa. At the same time, both public and private actors in the sector acknowledge that today cocoa production does not bring real economic prosperity to producers, their families nor their communities. More concerted efforts are needed to accelerate, upscale and intensify the policies, programs and investments to develop a more sustainable and fully deforestation free cocoa supply chain. Many organizations, ranging from governments, private sector, farmer organizations and civil society work on the topic. Further alignment should bring synergy, complementarity and



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cooperation such that true impact can be achieved in the near future, and the commitment to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030 from the COP26’s Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use can be met.

Objectives

- I. Raise awareness of the farmers’ position in the transition towards a more sustainable and fully deforestation free cocoa supply chain
- II. Reflect on opportunities, risks, and actions of emerging market requirements on traceability and monitoring requirements.
- III. Collect suggestions on the supportive actions by ADP countries and other stakeholders to further support a more sustainable and deforestation free cocoa supply chains.

Expected outcomes

The breakout session seeks active participation of cocoa stakeholders present. We invite supply chain actors to express their views on the emerging market requirements and the supportive actions needed for the transition to a more sustainable and fully deforestation free cocoa supply chain.

In preparation of the discussion an overview on the supportive actions is gathered along the 4 pillars of the ADP and the [2025 ambition statement](#). The actions are focused, but not limited to, the role and responsibility of the ADP governments.

- Enhancing **Governance**: policies, regulations and enforcement
- Strengthening **Partnerships**: jurisdictions and supply chains (support SDGs on community and regional level)
- Fostering **diplomacy & dialogue** between consumer and producer country governments
- Improving **monitoring and transparency** and ensure **civic space**.

Programme

11:45h – 13:00h / 14:00h – 15:15h Break-out group sustainable and fully deforestation free cocoa

Time	Activity	Speaker
11:45h	Welcome	Moderator Jonas Mva Mva and Renske Aarnoudse– IDH, The Sustainable Trade Initiative on focus of the breakout: how to successfully implement the upcoming market requirements?
11:50h	Opening messages	The farmer perspective on upcoming market requirements for more sustainable and fully deforestation free cocoa in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Désiré Adon – Co-coordinator of the Côte d’Ivoire platform for sustainable cocoa and member of the management of agricultural cooperation COOPASA • Obed Owusu-Addai – Ecocare Ghana
12:10h	Pitches and discussion	Requirements for traceability to ‘plot of land’ are welcomed and recognised as a key prerequisite for sustainable cocoa. But, what are



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		<p>the barriers for implementation, what is possible already and how to ensure inclusion of all stakeholders? Reflections on risks and opportunities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adeline Dontenville - European Forest Institute • Amourlaye Touré (by live video) – Mighty Earth West Africa • Lisa Kirfel-Rühle - German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development • Marine Reboul – French General Commission for Sustainable Development • Stéphanie Baclin – Belgian Ministry of Public Health – DG Environment
12:45h	Discussion	Q&A by moderators with participants on what other topics in cocoa need to be addressed to achieve fully deforestation free and more sustainable cocoa?
13:00h lunch break		
14:00h	Welcome back	Moderators
14:02h	Video message from Amsterdam Chocoo Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Laven (KIT) and Sebastiaan van der Hoek (Cargill) (TBC) on key outcomes from session on “Implications of EU legislation: Who will pay the price?” and suggestions for supportive actions to discuss.
14:15h	Q&A dialogue and pitch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alex Assanvo – Côte d'Ivoire Ghana Cocoa Income Initiative on main take aways from the morning session and the importance of fair pricing in more sustainable, deforestation free cocoa.
14:25h	Subgroup discussions on supportive actions	<p>Participants in subgroups to discuss supportive actions needed to address risks and opportunities addressed during the morning with a focus on 4 pillars of ADP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subgroup 1: Governance (policies, regulations, enforcement on national and sub-national level) • Subgroup 2: Partnerships (jurisdictions, supply chains) • Subgroup 3: Diplomacy and dialogue (G2G; multi-stakeholder) • Subgroup 4: Monitoring, transparency and civic space (tracking progress, information sharing and inclusivity to enable due diligence)
15:00h	Wrap up	Subgroup moderators to share main supportive actions to share in plenary session.
15:10h	End breakout	
15:15h Start plenary session		



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Background information

- ADP [Statement of Ambition 2025](#)
- EFI [Sustainability initiatives in Ivorian and Ghanaian cocoa supply chains: benchmarking and analysis](#)
- VOICE Network [Cocoa Barometer](#)
- [Open letter](#) Ivory Coast cocoa farmers
- ECA [Position Paper on the proposed EU Regulation on Deforestation and Forest degradation](#)
- IDH [Technical Brief on Cocoa Traceability](#)
- Mighty Earth [Sweet Nothings report](#)
- [Smallholders paper](#) - Including smallholders in EU action to protect and restore the world's forests (together with Fair Trade Advocacy Office, Fern, IUCN NL, Solidaridad)
- [Transferring lessons from FLEGT-VPA to promote governance reform in Ghana's cocoa sector](#) Tropenbos International, Tropenbos Ghana, Fern, EcoCare Ghana, and Forest Watch Ghana