



Roundtable *for a Sustainable Cocoa*  
**RSCE** Economy

# Principles for a Sustainable Cocoa Economy

Paper RSCE 2/7

Preparatory Meeting RSCE-2  
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 10-12 February 2009

Marcel Vernooij

Roundtable *for a Sustainable Cocoa* Economy  
**RSCE**

**Rationale and process**  
**Framing sustainable cocoa**  
**10 Principles**  
**Aim for Trinidad & Tobago**

# Rationale

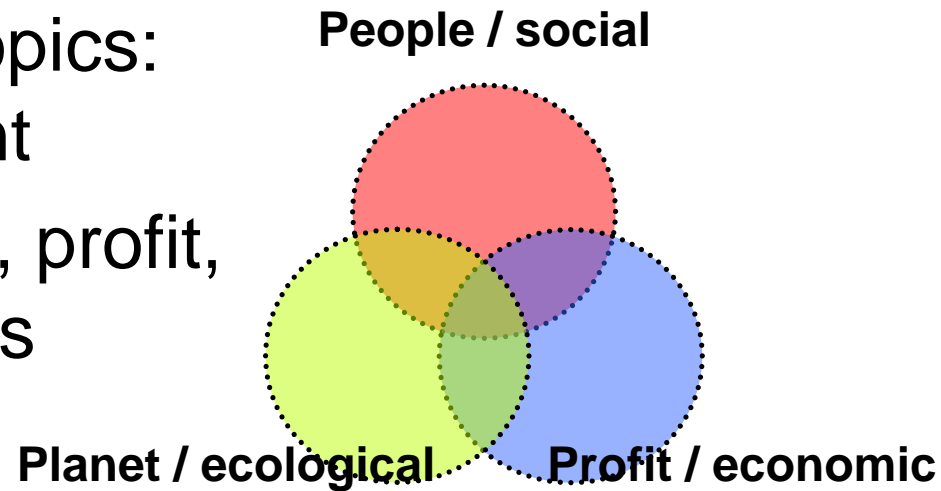
- Initially raised at Accra meeting
- Reference to related commodity chains
- Priority issues in sustainable cocoa
- Tool for communication
- Framework for initiatives
- Proposal based on Accra agenda

# Process

- Analysis of key issues Accra Agenda
- Principles related commodities: annex RSCE 2/7
- Expert Group: Mr Vernooij, Mr Holland, Ms Maharaj, Mr Quartey, Mr Enouga, Mr Streichert/  
Mr Schmitz-Hoffman, Mr Cueva, Mr Schnetzer
- Also Working Group RSCE-2
- Draft principles on web and for Abidjan meeting
- Adopt principles in Trinidad & Tobago

# Framing sustainable cocoa

- All cocoa, entire chain & entire Accra agenda
- Common efforts by all stakeholders
- Interrelated, complex topics:  
need for clear statement
- 3 pillars: people, planet, profit,  
plus institutional aspects



- Address need for economic viability

# 1. Transparency



Promote priority actions:

- Information sharing (incl statistics)
- Governance
- Stakeholder cooperation
- Tracking and tracing
- Price development
- Information farmers  $\leftrightarrow$  consumers

## 2. Compliance with applicable law and regulations

- Full implementation of international and national laws & regulations
- In all related aspects of cocoa chain
- Option: also include adherence to voluntary codes of practise

### **3. Remunerative price for cocoa, quality and improved farmer's income**

- Production of high quality cocoa
- Efficiency in supply chain
- Marketing and transparency in markets
- New markets and promotion of consumption, including in producing countries
- Price development, proper/equitable remuneration, price risk management



## 4. Diversification of local economy

- Diversification within cocoa farming
- Promoting off-farm employment
- Broadening economic base in rural areas producing cocoa

Also:

- Additional sources of rural income
- Innovative financing

# 5. Access to markets & market information

- Market and trade information
- Trade rules
- Quality standards development, implementation and information sharing
- Cooperation with producers: changing regulations, market opportunities, changing consumer preferences



## 6. Decent working conditions

- Decent labour conditions for farmers & workers along cocoa chain
- Equal rights/opportunities for women
- Non-discrimination
- Protection & promotion of rights of child

Underlining:

- Develop, implement & enforce rules decent labour
- Eliminate worst forms of child labour and forced adult labour

## 7. Support for farmer and worker organizations

- Rights & opportunities of farmers and workers to organize themselves into alliances
- Benefit from freedom of expression

Also:

- Educational activities and training through extension services



## 8. Clear land use planning, secure access to land and proper infrastructure

- Include cocoa in agricultural & land use planning
- Access to land for cocoa farmers
- Appropriate land (use) rights
- Prior informed consent as regards development of new cocoa areas
- Proper infrastructure

# 9. Natural resource management

- On farms and along supply chain
- Good agricultural practise
- Efficient use of resources in transport, processing, manufacturing, retailing
- Sound management of soil, water and air



# 10. Conservation and wise-use of biodiversity

- Prevent negative impacts on conservation areas, and on plant & animal species
- Broad genetic basis needed for cocoa improvement

Also opportunities for cocoa farming:

- Contribute to ecological zoning
- Financial compensation for ecological services (e.g. climate, water)





## **Proposed principles for sustainable cocoa**

- 1. Transparency**
- 2. Compliance with applicable laws and regulations**
- 3. Remunerative price for cocoa, quality and improved farmer's income**
- 4. Diversification of the local economy**
- 5. Access to markets and market information**
- 6. Decent working conditions**
- 7. Support for farmer and worker organizations**
- 8. Clear land use planning, secure access to land and proper infrastructure**
- 9. Natural resource management**
- 10. Conservation and wise-use of biodiversity**



# RSCE-2 in Trinidad & Tobago (1)

- Discuss draft principles, with the aim to adopt a set of principles at the meeting
- Annexed to Trinidad & Tobago declaration
- Call upon all stakeholders to make full use of the principles in policies, planning, action on the ground and outreach/ communication
- Reconfirm link of principles with Accra Agenda

# RSCE-2 in Trinidad & Tobago (2)

- Discuss whether to further elaborate objectives → principles into:
  - criteria ?
  - indicators?
- Discuss whether principles should also be directed towards certification processes, or whether certification is left to the market (or both)