Second International Workshop on cocoa certification

Draft summary results of the forum discussion

Zurich, Friday, March 07, 2014
Key questions addressed

1. Are there barriers to have a common framework for certification accepted by your stakeholders?

2. What could be solutions to address those barriers?

3. Is there anything missing to get “buy-in” from you and your stakeholders?

4. How would you recommend ICCO & UNFSS can support moving this process forward?
The set-up:
The group of certification stakeholders in small-group discussions
Impressions from the group work

Intense discussion and exchange...

... in relaxed atmosphere allowing for an open dialogue
Responses to question 1 – Sustainability gaps in general

a) Productivity including net income, labour, fertilizer, rehabilitation

b) Access to finance -> with proper risk models

c) Capacity building including technical aspects (production, etc.), business (organization, etc.) and infrastructure

d) Access to inputs including appropriate fertilizers, IPM, planting material

e) Diversification of production
Responses to question 1 – Sustainability gaps with regard to a common certification framework

- Consistency and quality of audits and related trainings - no more tick the box mentality for the issues faced in the field
- Endorsement about a set of KPIs and its related impact measurement
- Transparency of premium payments and their cost distribution is missing
- Absence of any kind of “expectation management” with regard to labels (How can over-expectations be avoided?)
Highlights question 2 – Solutions to fill the gaps regarding sustainability in general

• Define a vision for the cocoa sector in 10 years
• **Focal point model for non-organized farmers; each country has to define a model based on his own system**
• Define national living income calculations for small holder farmers
• **Improve the training systems; particularly match the training programmes with the agricultural calendar**
• Allow for financial transparency of the supply chain
Highlights question 2 – Solutions to fill the gaps regarding a common certification framework

- Build upon CCE project
- Examine which current tools (audit, training, etc.) are appropriate to be scaled-up; particularly underpin improvements towards the national living income
- Robust training and ICS capacity building should be a focus
- Allow for a stepwise approach for aiming at a common framework
Responses key question 3 – How to ensure “buy-in” of stakeholders?

- Avoid duplication of activities
- Assurance of multi-stakeholder participation with genuine collaboration
- Clearly defined and accepted roles & responsibilities -> constructive pressure on each other to maintain momentum and progress
- Regional forums shall identify local bottlenecks to suggest solutions and thus ensure buy-in of the local stakeholders
Highlights question 4 – Suggestions to ICCO/UNFSS 1 / 2

1. Dialogue between high-level organizations ICCO, WCF, ICA and national platforms and boards

2. Specifically: ICCO / UNFSS should facilitate review of WCF Cocoa Action Plan and the CEN process to see if they are of value to ICCO. Ultimately ICCO should come up with ideas how to coordinate / link with those processes ?

3. Facilitating information sharing, learning, commitment

4. Enforce transparency along the value chain
Highlights question 4 – Suggestions to ICCO/UNFSS 2 / 2

5. ICCO / UNFSS shall become a hub for impact and improvement measurement and make impact data available

6. Facilitating PPPs, because ICCO / UNFSS have good overview of successful projects

7. Promoting cocoa consumption (in producing & consuming countries)