Managing cocoa pests and diseases within Vision for Change project in CI

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Regional workshop on integrated management of cocoa pests and pathogens in Africa, 15 - 18 April 2013, Accra, Ghana
Outline

- Vision for Change (V4C) Project
- V4C Strategies to managing pests and diseases
- Progress made
- Way forward
Vision for Change (V4C) Project
Context

- Poor management of cocoa farms
- Low use of fertilizer, other inputs
- Aging cocoa tree stock
- Inadequate access to improved varieties
- Average yields 500 kg/ha
- CSSV outbreaks
Context

MOU signed between Government of Cdi and MARS in March 2010 on cocoa sustainability

V4C Project launched in 2011

10 years MARS commitment

Pilot Project derived from the MOU
Objectives of V4C

Revitalize the cocoa sector in Soubré and across Côte d’Ivoire
Through:

- Increased yields
- Improved quality
- Empowered farmers
- Profitable returns
- Developed communities
# V4C stakeholders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Ministry of Agriculture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key implementors</strong></td>
<td>ICRAF, MARS</td>
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<td><strong>Key partners</strong></td>
<td>Conseil café cacao - CNRA – ANADER- ESA – ENSEA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Beneficiaries</strong></td>
<td>Producers, Buyers, Industry, local government, Agro-dealers, consumers, etc.</td>
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PROJECT COMPONENTS

Deux pilars: **Productivity** and **Community Dvpt**

1. Improvement of planting material (pm)
2. Innovation platforms (CDC/CVC)
3. Extension/Technologies transfer
4. Sustainable Management; Fertilization, IPM, Diversification, Agroforestry, Quality, ..
5. Community Development
6. Monitoring and Evaluation
Strategies adopted to address the main objective

Increasing yields of small holder farmers from 0.5 to 1.5t/ha by:

- Demonstrate successful rehabilitation technologies
- Promote adoption of these technologies by farmers
- Improve farmers’ access to high yielding planting materials
Managing pests and diseases
3 approaches to manage pests and diseases

1. Contribute to the national strategy for cocoa pests and diseases control

2. Implement effective management schemes of cocoa pests and diseases management

3. Minimize the risks of cocoa swollen shoot virus disease (CSSV) during propagation of planting material
2- Strategy development for regenerated cocoa farms

- Conduct a baseline study on pests and diseases control issues in the intervention zone as a whole

- Look specifically at pests and diseases control issues in cocoa orchards rehabilitated through grafting

- Evaluate the response of the different clones used in grafting to attacks by mirids and diseases

- Train the project technicians on GAP and IPM
3- Reducing risk of CSSV transmission during planting material (pm) propagation
PROGRESS MADE SO FAR…

- Conducted a regional workshop in Accra to:
  - Promote understanding of field management of CSSV
  - Update current management guidelines
  - Propose short term research priorities
- Trained technicians on CSSV management methods
- Conducted a study to develop a protocol for risk mitigation in pm propagation
PROGRESS MADE SO FAR…

- Produced guidelines to minimize the risk of spreading CSSV

- Trained CNRA scientists to develop a PCR-based diagnosis tool in order to regularly screen clonal garden trees

- Initiated monitoring of CSSV outbreaks in the surroundings of the on-farm demonstration plots
THE WAY FORWARD

- Increase awareness on CSSV management strategies
- Strengthen the capacity of scientists and extension agents
- Enable farmers and extension agents to master CSSV management
- Strengthen Partnership with NARES to:
  - Develop reliable diagnosis tools for virus detection
  - Develop CSSV tolerant clones
  - Make available clean planting material for grafting
THE WAY FORWARD

- Isolate clonal gardens with barrier crops
- Develop safety guidelines for visitors of the clonal gardens
- Translate research findings into on-farm solutions
- Take part in the national plan for CSSV risk management
CONCLUSION

- MARS V4C Project is aware of the potential risks in propagation of planting material in the rehabilitation of cocoa orchards

- V4C Project has integrated IPM in its project strategy and components

- V4C is contributing to the elaboration of a national protocol in order to mitigate risks in CSSV propagation
THANK YOU