The European Cocoa Association is a trade association representing the European cocoa sector and regrouping the major companies involved in the cocoa bean trade and processing, in warehousing and related logistical activities. Together, ECA Members represent two-thirds of Europe’s cocoa beans grinding, half of Europe's industrial chocolate production and 40% of the world production of cocoa liquor, butter and powder.

- European – but interacts with producing and consuming countries
- Direct company membership
- Represents cocoa supply chain operators up to production of industrial chocolate
- Concentrated market
A bird’s eye view of ECA in the association landscape

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Type of Collaboration</strong></th>
<th><strong>Information Exchange</strong></th>
<th><strong>Active collaboration</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Economic</strong> (Trade aspects incl. Contracts, supply chain issues on the ground)</th>
<th><strong>Environmental</strong> (incl. Food Safety issues eg IPM etc.)</th>
<th><strong>Social</strong> (Labour conditions, OSH)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>International Bodies/Initiatives</strong></td>
<td><strong>ICA</strong></td>
<td><strong>ICI (WFCL, FAL)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FCC (contracts)</strong></td>
<td><strong>WCF</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ECA (Brussels)</strong></td>
<td><strong>EWF</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CAOBISCO (finished products)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Other Commodity Associations</strong></td>
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<td><strong>National Bodies</strong></td>
<td><strong>National Associations, eg BDSI, NCA etc...</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- ICCO
- ICI (WFCL, FAL)
- Other Commodity Associations
- National Associations, eg BDSI, NCA etc...
Main areas of activity

Monitoring of legislation (EU and Int’al)
- Trade (Customs Codes, Trade Agreements, Logistics issues such as transport etc.)
- Food Safety/Quality ‘Farm to Fork’ approach
  - Wide range of issues such as
    - Contaminants (PAH, OTA etc.)
    - Residues (pesticides)
  - Research projects + dissemination of findings

When necessary, presentation of EU private sector positioning (often in partnership with other groups)

Information to members, partner organisations and origin country representatives (notably through ICCO’s consultative Board & Local country representatives)

Inputs into RSC E2 Best Known Practices Document
Main areas of activity (cont’d)

Active participation in fora related to responsible cocoa production
- ECA sits on the ICCO Consultative Board
- Labour conditions:
  - ECA sits on ICI Exec. Committee, the ICVB
- Development Issues
  - ECA sits on Task Force of recent OECD Club Sahel Initiative

Interaction with civil society & media on cocoa sustainability topics
- Information to members, partner organisations and origin country representatives (notably through ICCO’s consultative Board & Local country representatives)

Input into
- Social Conditions RSC E2 Document
- RSC E2 Draft Principles
What's in a word

- Sustainability means many things to different people
- To us it amounts to a supply-chain we can be proud of
- All aspects are interlinked in a virtuous circle

- All the stakeholders involved, from the farmer, to the origin countries authorities, to the economic operators, all the way to the consumer benefit from improvements to the supply chain
- Each has a role to play, including the private sector
- The private sector is working on many fronts, through individual company programmes (incl. pilot certification projects) and collective initiatives

Yet… to many, progress still seems slow
‘Perception’ Challenges

• The cocoa supply chain is different to many others (multitude of smallholders, land tenure... + long complex processing chain involving many actors)
• What is being done in other supply-chains is not readily applicable to mainstream cocoa
• Yet expectations are high...

➤ No quick fix: without an enabling environment and the appropriate infrastructure in place, sustainability of programmes is challenged
• Need to have a true long-term perspective which links sustainability of cocoa to development agenda
Topics for discussion with group

- It’s not just about doing more - it’s about doing better

  • **Support increased coordination of activities & initiatives and alignment with national action plans and strategies**
    - Technical/AP training & education (extension services)
    - Awareness raising (labour conditions, access to schooling etc.)

  • **Encourage more private sector actors to engage in sustainability efforts**

  • **Encourage origins to ensure rural development/agriculture are on development agendas**, in line with poverty reduction goals (at EU and international levels) – better government to government interaction

- **Think ‘out of the box’ - look at innovative ways of leveraging funds from different sources (incl. Private sector) for reinvestment in cocoa communities**