Round-table on Sustainable Cocoa March 2009

Peter McAllister
International Cocoa Initiative
Key Points

“How does your organization contribute towards the development of a sustainable cocoa economy?”

- What is the ICI?
- What do we do?
- How does ICI contribute to a sustainable cocoa economy?
ICI: A unique Partnership

• ICI brings together the capabilities of the global cocoa industry with the experience and expertise of trade unions, consumer groups, development NGO’s and labour activities

• Dedicated to ensuring no child is harmed in the growing of cocoa and, ultimately, to ending child and forced labour in the sector

Working towards responsible labour standards for cocoa growing
Our mission

“to oversee and sustain efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labour and forced labour in the growing and processing of cocoa beans and their derivative products.”

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Membership

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The realities on the ground

- Hazardous forms of child labour widespread but not limited to cocoa
- Child exploitation e.g., trafficking present
- Context is poor rural areas in developing economies
- Often education provision weak, infrastructure poor & options limited
- A range of external factors affect these decisions

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Programme Elements

• Work at the national level
  – to support appropriate & effective policies & plans;

• Support capacity building
  – for local partners and key institutions;

• Implement a community based programme
  – to change local practices;

• Support social protection
  – for victims of exploitation;

• Share lessons learned
  – For scalable replication;

• Engage business
  – to change the way cocoa is grown;

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Programme Actions

• ICI supports projects in 259 communities in Ghana & Cote d’Ivoire,

• 9 NGO partners in 7 Districts in Ghana

• 5 NGO partners in 7 Prefectures in Ivory Coast

• Community based programme covers a population of 835,200
Programme Actions

• 300 local initiatives completed or underway on child labour

• Supported Ghana Cocoa Board radio programme on 13 local stations in Ghana
  – Combined audience 16 million (in collaboration Cadbury)

• 1,260 key people in the public, civil society and private sectors extensively trained in child labour in 56 training events
ICI Contribution

• Child & forced labour cannot be eliminated without a sustainable cocoa economy

• And ...........

• By definition a sustainable cocoa must be one without child or forced labour

• Therefore ICI’s work directly contributes to this aim.
Conference Recommendations

• Producer Governments should provide overall leadership and coordination for cocoa production

• Industry should support the evolution of an efficient, transparent and sustainable cocoa supply chain

• The international development agencies & civil society have a unique development role

• Call for a substantial investment in education for all
Moving towards a unifying vision

“thriving cocoa growing communities”

A challenge to work towards conditions that will support healthy, appealing and economically viable communities where children are safe and in school

Working towards responsible labour standards for cocoa growing

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Thank you for your attention

Want to know more?

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