



WORLD COCOA CONFERENCE

DELIVERING A SUSTAINABLE COCOA VALUE CHAIN IN GHANA

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Introduction



- ❖ Ghana produces an average of 850,000 tonnes of cocoa beans per annum, representing about 20% of the world cocoa production.
- ❖ Ghana thus has a significant role to play in the achievement of a sustainable supply base.
- ❖ In Ghana, cocoa is produced predominantly by smallholder farmers.
- ❖ Average farm size is approximately 3 hectares with low yield levels ranging between 400-500 kg/ha.

Interventions towards achieving sustainable Cocoa Value Chain

- COCOBOD has initiated various policies/interventions in the cocoa sector.
- The focus of the interventions is to achieve sustainable cocoa value chain.
- All measures are geared towards strengthening the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable cocoa production and are indicated in the subsequent slides.

A. ECONOMIC PILLAR: - Key interventions

2. Reliable micro-financing arrangement

- ✓ Efforts are on-going to put in place a reliable micro-finance scheme to provide finance for cocoa farmers.
- ✓ This is being done in collaboration with some financial institutions and financial support from World Cocoa Foundation and other private sector organizations along a public private partnership model (e. g. Agence Francaise de Development)
- ✓ work is underway to prepare the modalities for administering the scheme for cocoa farmers.



A. ECONOMIC PILLAR: - Key interventions

3. Improvement in farm yields to economic levels.

- The focus is to raise average yield levels to 1,000 kg/ha.
- COCOBOD intends to achieve this through the following:
 - ✓ Provision of fertilizers to farmers at subsidized prices to improve soil fertility and management through Cocoa Hi-Tech Programme.
 - ✓ Control of diseases and pests through Disease and Pest Control Programme (CODAPEC).
 - ✓ Treatment of the swollen shoot disease by cutting out infected cocoa trees and replanting with disease tolerant hybrid planting material(s).
 - ✓ Replanting of old , abandoned and destroyed farms.
 - ✓ Rehabilitation of existing unproductive farms.
 - ✓ Provision of extension service to farmers with support from private partners on the public-private partnership model.
 - ✓ Production and distribution of improved planting materials to farmers free of charge.

A. ECONOMIC PILLAR: - Key interventions

4. Farmer Economic Empowerment through other initiatives

- COCOBOD carries out the following to economically empower cocoa farmers:
 - ✓ Encouraging farmers to diversify their income generation abilities to earn additional income. This is carried out through the business model of the extension programme.
 - ✓ Instilling business culture into cocoa farming as part of the curriculum of the new cocoa extension scheme.
 - ✓ Encouraging the development of new markets for certified, organic, fair trade, traceable and fine flavour cocoa. This specialty cocoa will offer farmers extra income and social projects/benefits and improved livelihood programme for cocoa communities.

- ✓ Promotion of local consumption of cocoa
- ✓ Creating congenial atmosphere for farmers to form groups/associations as a medium for dissemination of extension education, distribution of inputs and promotion of farmer's welfare.
- ✓ Provision of weighing scales and test stones to farmers to minimize cheating at the point of sale.



B. SOCIAL PILLAR - Key interventions

I. Elimination of the worst forms of child labour from cocoa farming:

- ✓ Provision of financial/logistical support to the National Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (NEPCLC) in cocoa.
- ✓ Implementation of a National Plan of Action to withdraw worst forms of child labour in cocoa growing areas.
- ✓ Creation of awareness on the use of Child labour through farmer's fora/rallies and radio programmes on key FM stations located in the cocoa growing communities.

B. SOCIAL PILLAR - Key interventions

2. Access to quality education in cocoa growing communities:

- ✓ Institution of a Cocoa Farmers Scholarship Trust. It offers scholarships to 7,500 wards of cocoa farmers in second-cycle institutions annually.
- ✓ Provision of capitation grant, school feeding programme and free school uniforms under the Free Compulsory and Universal Basic Education Programme (FCUBE)

C. Corporate Social Responsibility Programme

- I. Provision of healthcare facilities to some cocoa growing communities.
- II. Contributing to the Roads Fund towards the construction and rehabilitation of cocoa roads to open up cocoa communities.
- III. Establishment of Cocoa Farmers Rural Housing Scheme on pilot basis in cocoa growing communities.
- IV. Provision of solar street lights and solar-powered boreholes in selected cocoa farming communities which are not connected to the national grid.
- V. Provision of treated mosquito bed nets to cocoa farmers.

D. ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR: - Key interventions

- ✓ The aim is to increase cocoa production through intensification method of cultivation rather than expansion.
- ✓ Efforts toward cocoa rehabilitation and replanting exercises are geared towards old, abandoned and denuded farms.
- ✓ Adoption of Hi-Tech method which involves application of fertilizers and other recommended inputs is aimed at enhancing productivity on existing area under cocoa cultivation.
- ✓ Extension message emphasises cultivation of recommended crops and trees to provide shade to protect the cocoa trees for environmental enhancement.
- ✓ Farmer education also includes construction of fire belts around cocoa farms especially during dry season to prevent fire outbreaks on cocoa farms.

D. Environmental Pillar cont'd:

- ✓ Provision of protective clothing for gangs and other personnel involved in the nationwide spraying against pests and diseases.
- ✓ Education of spraying gangs and farmers on the proper disposal of cans and packaging materials of agro-chemicals.
- ✓ Agro-chemicals are recommended for use only on the advice of CRIG and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Ghana after a minimum of 3 years scientific trials to ascertain efficacy and environmental impact.
- ✓ Testing of maximum residue levels (MRLs) by CRIG and QCC of COCOBOD in line with acceptable standards before export.

Conclusion

- Ghana Cocoa Board is committed to delivering a sustainable cocoa value chain.
- The way forward will depend on the commitment of the various actors along the supply chain to complement our efforts to promote efficiency, transformation and sustainability of the cocoa sector.



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