



Cocoa &
Forests
Initiative

ANNUAL REPORT COCOA AND FORESTS INITIATIVE 2023

LANDSCAPE APPROACH AND COLLECTIVE ACTION FOR THE PROTECTION
OF FORESTS AND THE SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION OF COCO



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OPENING REMARKS



LAURENT TCHAGBA

Minister of Water and Forests,
Chairman of the Steering Committee
of the Cocoa and Forests Initiative

Since the signing of the Joint Action Framework (JAF) of the Cocoa and Forests Initiative (CFI) on November 16, 2017, in Bonn, Germany, Côte d'Ivoire has been taking action to end deforestation caused by cocoa cultivation.

Several activities have been carried out and others are being implemented as part of the 2022-2025 action plan of the second phase of the CFI. The year 2023, which is fully in line with the context of this action plan, aims not only to consolidate the achievements of the pilot phase of the initiative, but also to increase the impact of the actions initiated by all the signatory members of the CFI CAC.

One of the major achievements of the CFI, as a public-private partnership platform, is the framework for dialogue it has created between all stakeholders in the cocoa and forestry sectors on the key themes of cocoa sustainability and investments made. However, much remains to be done and efforts must be made by all signatories to mobilize the financial resources required for the successful implementation of the CFI objectives.

In addition, two major initial challenges of the CFI are being addressed. These are, on the one hand, the operationalization of the Unified National Cocoa Traceability System, which is currently being tested and deployed across the country, and on the other hand, the operationalization of the national system for spatial monitoring of forests and early warning of deforestation, the process of which was initiated within the framework of the National Sustainable Cocoa Strategy. These two instruments are necessary to meet the requirements of the new European Union regulation on imported deforestation.

I welcome the commitment of all CFI stakeholders and encourage them to combine their efforts, alongside the Ivorian Government and technical and financial partners, to promote a sustainable cocoa economy that respects the environment and preserves forest heritage. And this, through activities and projects that contribute to the successful implementation of the CFI 2022-2025 action plan.

Furthermore, I urge the members of the Initiative to maintain and make more dynamic the platform that is the CFI so that it remains a privileged space for dialogue between the main stakeholders on the key themes of cocoa sustainability. These themes include in particular the fight against deforestation as well as current topics such as agroforestry, traceability, the satellite monitoring system of forests and the European Union regulation on imported deforestation.

The collaboration of CFI members will enable Côte d'Ivoire and private partners to have solid levers to meet national and international challenges related to the preservation of forests and the fight against climate change.



CHRIS VINCENT

President of the
World Cocoa Foundation

As the largest public-private partnership in the cocoa sector, the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI) is a ground-breaking approach to solving the systemic challenges of deforestation linked to cocoa and the restoration of degraded forests. The World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), and our signatory members in the cocoa and chocolate industry, are proud to work alongside government partners, like Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of Water and Forests, and leaders in cocoa-growing communities to address these challenges.

Through this collaboration, we were able to deliver some important achievements in Côte d'Ivoire last year. To integrate sustainable land management and conservation across diverse ecosystems, we moved towards a landscape approach centred on collective action that will achieve tangible outcomes for ecological, economic and social goals by directing finance into areas that are currently underserved.

Thanks to the efforts of the CFI partners, one of the six CFI priority landscapes - the Classified Forest of Cavally - was upgraded to a nature reserve strengthening its conservation status.

Work has begun in two CFI priority landscapes, the Yapo-Abbé and Bossématié landscapes, where comprehensive land-use assessments, stakeholder engagement and baseline

studies have been launched. These will be finalised by the end of 2024, leading to realistic, impact focused and inclusive investment plans for those landscapes. In addition, WCF together with its partners Wageningen University & Research (WUR), the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) and the Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa (SWISSCO), will also field test the Cocoa Household Income Study (CHIS) methodology. The CHIS methodology is a new standard for measuring cocoa household income and is the first time that there will be a common, standardised and sector-wide methodology that will ensure impact data from across the sector can be aggregated and compared.

Signatory companies continued their CFI-related investments. From 2021 to 2023, they invested \$197 million in Côte d'Ivoire on projects that support CFI's objectives. 82% of those companies' direct supply chains are now traceable to the plot level in the country and, in the last year, 600,000 Ivorian farmers received technical assistance to professionalise and optimise cocoa-farming practices. During the year, farmers developed 114,000 hectares of cocoa agroforestry thanks to CFI-related support and, separately, to increase forest cover, 763,000 trees were distributed for off-farm restoration efforts.

Going forward, the CFI partnership will enable the sector to make further progress on the crucial issues of forest protection and restoration whilst strengthening farmer livelihoods and improving the resilience of the cocoa supply chain. WCF looks forward to continuing to work with our partners to drive that progress.



DAAN WENSING

CEO, IDH

As the sixth year of implementation of the Cocoa & Forests Initiative continues, we are halfway through the second phase. This report presents a summary of the collective actions carried out in 2023, highlighting the efforts and progress made. At this point, it is important to take a moment to congratulate the many actors who are working together to achieve the objectives of this initiative. Government partners such as the Ministry of Water and Forests, the Coffee and Cocoa Council, the Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition, SODEFOR and OIPR have worked together with cocoa and chocolate companies as well as civil society organizations for collective investments in forest protection and sustainable cocoa production. Congratulations to all these actors. While the work accomplished is notable, much more needs to be done to achieve our goal.

IDH continues to promote proactive measures to contribute to forest protection and sustainable cocoa production. To this end, IDH has worked closely with the Permanent Secretariat of the initiative to implement a pilot phase of the deforestation alert management procedure in CFI priority areas.

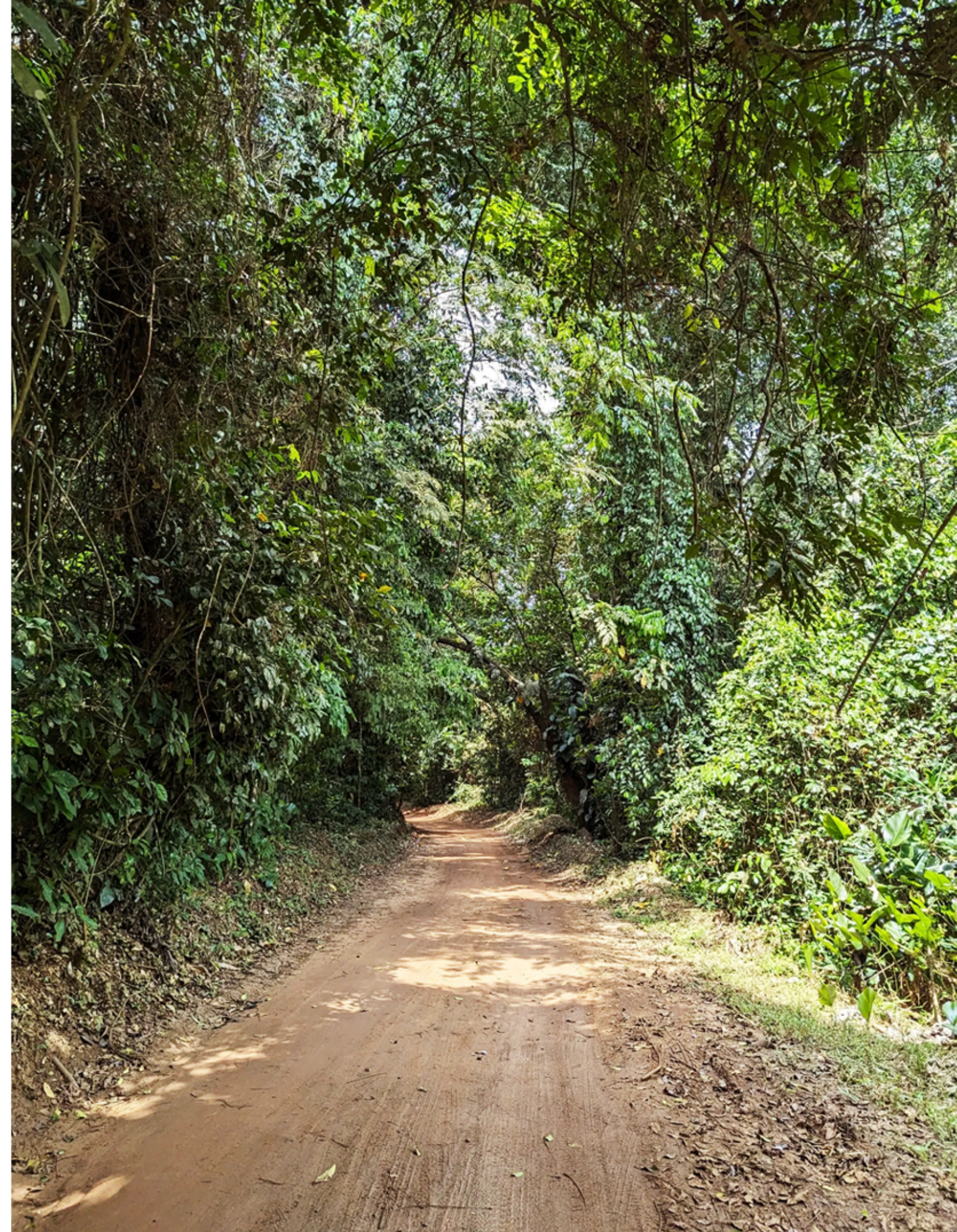
This pilot phase allowed us to test the alert management procedure to be used at the national level within the framework of the national forest monitoring system.

It also allowed us to strengthen the technical and material capacities of the institutions responsible for forest management at the national level. The lessons learned from this pilot phase will be essential for the effective establishment of the national forest monitoring system.

For this second phase of the initiative, monitoring and evaluating progress and actions is one of the major challenges. It is necessary to have an effective and appropriate monitoring and evaluation framework, allowing to better monitor the progress made in the implementation of this public-private partnership that is the CFI. Thus, IDH supports the secretariat of the initiative in the development of its monitoring and evaluation framework which will ultimately allow to assess the real impact of the initiative on issues related to deforestation and sustainable agricultural practice. The signatories of the CFI will then not only be able to demonstrate their achievements to stakeholders, but also contribute to identifying areas for improvement. By relying on a common understanding that arises from data analysis, we will be able to encourage innovation and adaptability in the transformation of the cocoa sector, staying abreast of emerging trends and challenges in order to effectively address the constantly evolving sustainability issues.

The CFI is built on collaborative efforts, and it is essential that private sector actors connect with public policies such as EUDR and ARS1000, and soon CS3D, which promote due diligence and shared responsibility throughout the value chain. These policies will contribute to the sustainability of the cocoa sector through 100% traceability and collective monitoring of forests. Indeed, the CFI commitments go beyond due diligence, they also represent an opportunity to leverage these policies and demonstrate how they can support efforts for collective action.

As a collaborative change agent, IDH promotes greater inclusivity to leverage sustainable solutions that can accelerate improved farmer incomes, adoption of better environmental practices, and gender equality for all in the cocoa value chain in Côte d'Ivoire. We hope that CFI will continue to contribute to achieving these goals.



INDEX OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ARS 1000	: African Standard for Sustainable Cocoa
COP	: Climate Conference of the Parties
COTECH	: Technical Committee
NGO	: Non-Governmental Organization
EUDR	: Regulations on Deforestation and Forest Degradation of the European Union
GIS	: Geographic Information Systems
WCF	: World Cocoa Foundation
CFI	: Cocoa and Forests Initiative
MINEF	: Ministry of Water and Forests
PPP	: Public-Private Partnership
REDD+	: Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions due to Deforestation and Forest : Degradation



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2023, the Cocoa and Forests Initiative (CFI) continued to play a critical role in protecting forests and promoting sustainable cocoa production in Côte d'Ivoire. Through enhanced collaboration between the government, the private sector and non-governmental organizations, significant progress was made in achieving forest conservation and restoration objectives in CFI intervention areas, while supporting the livelihoods of cocoa farmers.

The year 2023 was marked by the significant development of Public-Private Partnerships in favor of the protection, rehabilitation and expansion of forests. To follow these efforts, the Ivorian Government validated in 2023, the specifications for the development of a national system for spatial monitoring of forests and early warning of deforestation. In order to facilitate its implementation and deployment, the CFI initiated a pilot phase to practically test the procedure for managing and verifying deforestation alerts in the field, with a focus on the six priority landscapes of the CFI.

A major step forward was made in contributing to reforestation through the distribution of 6,457,107 forest seedlings to producers by CFI members. In addition, Côte d'Ivoire recorded a significant development by adopting the establishment of a unified national traceability system. In this perspective, the combined efforts of CFI members have made it possible to obtain 82% of traceable cocoa in the supply chain of cocoa companies.

CFI's actions also paid special attention to strengthening the rights and well-being of local communities. Cocoa farmers received training on sustainable agricultural practices and were supported by economic and social programs aimed at diversifying their sources of income, improving their resilience to climate change and ensuring inclusive and sustainable development. In addition, several inclusion and community engagement projects were implemented with 137,458 women and youth beneficiaries of these programs.

Finally, the CFI continues through its actions to strengthen collaboration between the signatories of the Joint Action Framework and all other stakeholders in the cocoa and forest sectors.



INTRODUCTION

Since its independence, Côte d'Ivoire has built its economic development mainly on agriculture, particularly cocoa farming. As the world's leading cocoa producer, this sector remains the central pillar of the country's economic growth, contributing around 15% of GDP and generating more than 40% of export revenues. However, this economic expansion has had a significant impact on the country's forest heritage.

Over the decades, Ivorian forest cover has declined drastically, from 16 million hectares in 1900 to just 2.97 million hectares in 2020, marking a loss of more than 80%. Rapid deforestation and agricultural expansion have given way to a mosaic of secondary forests, plantations, food crops and fallow land.

In response to this situation, the Cocoa and Forests Initiative (CFI) was launched with the aim of ending deforestation linked to cocoa production and promoting the protection and restoration of forests. The Common Action Framework (CAC) is the basis of this initiative, structuring the agreement of all stakeholders around eight key commitments:

1. Prohibit and prevent activities in the cocoa sector which cause or contribute to the continued deforestation or degradation of National Parks and Reserves, Classified Forests and forests in the protected forest area (rural area);

2. Respect the rights of cocoa producers, in particular through the identification and reduction of social risks and the progressive implementation of actions to minimise potential adverse impacts on social and economic aspects;

3. Promote the effective restoration and long-term conservation of national parks and reserves as well as classified forests;

4. Strengthen supply chain mapping, with the ultimate goal of achieving full traceability down to plantation level;

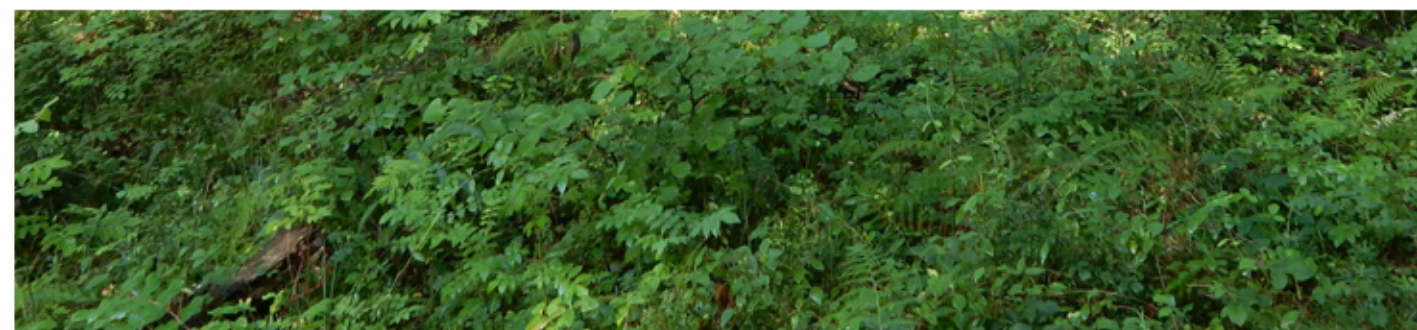
5. Implement tangible actions and time-bound targets based on reliable data, robust and credible methodologies, stakeholder consultations and a realistic timeline;

6. Implement the actions adopted in the context of a broader territorial approach, creating strong links with similar initiatives on other agricultural productions, and fully aligning with the national REDD+ strategy and other relevant national strategies and plans.

7. Work together to implement the actions of the Framework and to mobilize the required financial resources and technical expertise, including through a process of continuous stakeholder engagement around dialogue on key issues, development of an effective implementation plan, and joint actions to share lessons and knowledge to strengthen institutional capacities; and


8. Provide follow-up and effective reporting on progress on commitments and actions to ensure transparency and accountability.

The activities carried out in 2023 are part of the implementation of the CFI Action Plan 2022-2025. This report presents the actions carried out, the results obtained and the priorities for the future, with a particular emphasis on multi-sectoral collaboration to achieve the objectives of the Initiative.




CFI NUMERICAL RESULTS IN 2023


1. Forest protection and restoration


 **58,773** hectares of reforestation carried out in rural areas.
7,132 hectares of forest reserves and classified forests restored

 **29** public-private partnership agreements signed for sustainable forest management, covering 29 classified forests.


2.2. Agroforestry and sustainable production


 **114,213** hectares of cocoa plots converted into agroforestry plots.


 **6,457,107** tree seedlings distributed for planting on farms

 **82%** of directly sourced cocoa is traceable from the plantation to the first point of purchase

 **65,604** producers applying agroforestry out of 206,134 benefiting from technical assistance to adopt and develop agroforestry.


 **275,761** producers were made aware of the new forest code, the application of the law, and the protection and restoration of forests.


 **610 931** producers benefited from technical assistance to professionalize and optimize cocoa growing practices.


 **53,987** producers received incentives to protect and restore forests and/or adopt agroforestry through payments for environmental services.



3. Social inclusion and community engagement

 **17,812** people participated in projects and activities focused on youth

 **138,499** people benefited from technical assistance to develop income-generating activities

 **6,359** village savings and credit associations were set up, benefiting 157,125 people.

 **119,646** women participated in women's empowerment projects and activities.

198 communities were actively involved in active forest restoration and protection programs.





1. FOREST PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

FOREST PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

1.1. Forest protection and restoration actions

In 2023, the CFI continued its efforts to protect and restore forests in Côte d'Ivoire. These efforts have enabled the reduction of the deforestation rate in certain priority areas, such as the Cavally Nature Reserve (formerly the Cavally Classified Forest), where the rate fell from 6% in 2018 to 0.7% in 2022, reaching 0.27% in 2023.

Population pressure, combined with land conflicts and illegal logging, are leading to unsustainable exploitation of forest resources by local communities. In addition, extensive farming practices used by communities are increasing the degradation of forests and ecosystems.

Faced with this situation, the CFI and its partners have implemented actions including the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices, the improvement of forest governance and the strengthening of the application of forest laws. In 2023, several decrees were adopted to strengthen sustainable forest management and the preservation of forest biodiversity, including the decrees creating the Agro-forest of Scio, Haute-Dodo, Rapides-Grah and the Cavally Nature Reserve. Significant actions have enabled the reforestation of 58,773 hectares by CFI partners. 7,132 hectares of classified forests and nature reserves have been restored through reforestation and natural regeneration processes.



During the year 2023, 275,761 producers were trained in the new requirements of the forest code, in the application of laws on the protection and restoration of forests in order to promote participatory and inclusive management of these forests.



1.2. Procedure for verifying deforestation alerts

The Ivorian Government, the private sector and the TFPs have been engaged in discussions for several years for the development of a national system for spatial monitoring of forests and early warning of deforestation to monitor the evolution of forest dynamics at the national level. The specifications for the development of this system were validated in 2023.

As part of the priorities, the CFI initiated, in 2023, a pilot project to practically test the procedure for managing and verifying deforestation alerts in the field, with a focus on the six priority landscapes of the CFI. This project was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the validated Specifications of the national forest monitoring system which describes the technical and IT characteristics.

The mission allowed stakeholders in charge of verifications in the rural domain, classified forests and National Parks and Reserves to have an overview of the expectations and constraints of the national system in the implementation of the procedure for verifying deforestation alerts in the field.

3,592 alert points generated by existing satellite platforms in CFI priority landscapes were analyzed by photo-interpretation using high-precision satellite images. 887 alert points were verified in the field by 10 focal points of the technical structures in charge of the forest, namely the services of MINEF, SODEFOR and OIPR.

The project also helped to strengthen the capacities of MINEF, SODEFOR and OIPR agents on GIS tools and embedded applications used for collecting data in the field.

The main recommendations include the appropriation by stakeholders of the verification procedure and the adaptation of internal procedures, the strengthening of the technical capacities of forestry agents of the MINEF, SODEFOR and OIPR services on GIS tools and early warning verification tools and the equipping of technical services with adequate material to ensure the fluidity of the deforestation alert verification chain.

1.3. Public-private sector collaborations for the conservation and sustainable management of forest landscapes

1.3.1. Development of CFI collaborative projects in the landscapes of Yapo-Abbé and Bossematié

In 2023, following the selection of the Yapo-Abbé and Bossematié landscapes to start the collaborative projects, a study on the causes of deforestation using a community approach was carried out in the landscapes centered on the six CFI forests. The results of this study will ensure good communication on CFI themes in these areas, in these areas, to ensure an inclusive approach in the development of CFI collaborative projects and to guarantee optimal synergies of actions. Additional studies will be carried out in 2024 to collect the information necessary for the de-

velopment of concept notes for CFI projects in these two landscapes.

1.3.2. Other public-private collaboration initiatives

In 2023, the government continued to promote the participation of the private sector and technical and financial partners to strengthen the protection and restoration of forests in Côte d'Ivoire. Thus, 29 memoranda of understanding were signed between MINEF and the private sector aimed at the sustainable management of classified forests.

Individual and collective efforts were recorded during the year 2023. The various CFI partners initiated strong and notable actions that made a significant contribution to reforestation efforts. These results, strongly positively impacted by the adoption of regulatory texts, are conducive to investments. Finally, the validation of specifications for the development of a national system for spatial monitoring of forests and early warning for the implementation and monitoring of the protection and restoration of Ivorian forests.





2. AGROFORESTRY AND SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION



AGROFORESTRY AND SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION

2.1. Adoption of agroforestry and climate-smart practices

During 2023, 610,931 producers benefited from technical assistance to professionalize and optimize cocoa growing practices through training on good agricultural practices, climate-smart cocoa farming and agroforestry. These trainings were provided in accordance with the ARS 1000 Standard for sustainable cocoa. The synergy of actions of CFI members made it possible to contribute to reforestation through agroforestry by distributing 6,457,107 plants.

2.2. Supply chain mapping and traceability

In 2023, Côte d'Ivoire made progress in the development of the Unified National Cocoa Traceability System. On September 13, 2023, the government issued Decree No. 2023-723 establishing a National Coffee-Cocoa Traceability System to guarantee the transparency and verifiability of the origin of cocoa, ensuring that its production complies with sustainability standards. After a pilot phase, the deployment of the national traceability system has been underway among approved operators since December 2023.

682,837 farms have been mapped in the direct supply chain of companies in 2023. The traceability rate of cocoa in the direct supply chain of signatory companies is 82%.

In 2023, the Cocoa and Forests Initiative (CFI) intensified its efforts to promote empowerment and social inclusion in cocoa-growing communities. Various programs were implemented to improve the living conditions of local populations, combat child labor, and ensure sustainable and inclusive development.

In 2023, several actions were undertaken to promote the adoption of the ARS 1000 standard, with the aim of ensuring sustainable cocoa production. These initiatives included the development of an operational guide and related technical documents, such as the Agroforestry Techniques Guide. This normative framework has helped to consolidate environmentally friendly agricultural practices, thus strengthening commitments to sustainability in the cocoa sector.





3. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

CFI members have strengthened the technical capacities of women and youth by actively integrating them into development projects. More than 119,646 women have participated in empowerment programs, providing them with training on sustainable agricultural practices, microcredit opportunities and financial management. In addition, 17,812 youth have participated in youth-focused projects and activities for their empowerment, including vocational training and entrepreneurial initiatives.

CFI members facilitated the creation of support groups and community networks for women and youth, encouraging the exchange of knowledge and good practices. CFI members promoted the active participation of local communities in the sustainable management of forest resources. In 2023, 198 local communities were involved in reforestation efforts, directly participating in forest protection and restoration.

The year 2023 was marked by efforts to promote empowerment and social inclusion within cocoa-producing communities. Through PPPs developed to sustainably manage forests and landscapes, women and youth were involved in the implementation of the CFI. These actions aim to make them less dependent on forests by developing green activities and other income-generating activities for communities bordering Ivorian forests.





4. CFI GOVERNANCE IN 2023



CFI GOVERNANCE IN 2023

The CFI governance framework in Côte d'Ivoire includes a steering committee, a technical committee, a permanent secretariat and a monitoring and evaluation body.



The Technical Committee is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of the actions defined in the CAC, supervising the work of the various working groups and validating their action plans, making proposals received by the steering committee and preparing the various meetings of the steering committee.

4.1. Main decisions of the Technical Committee

In 2023, the CFI Technical Committee (CO-TECH) held its eleventh (11th) meeting with the aim of taking stock of the progress of the implementation of the Steering Committee resolutions and the implementation of the 2022-2025 action plan. The Technical Committee:

- approved the next steps in the process of developing collaborative projects around the selected forests, namely: the collection of cartographic and socio-economic data necessary for the finalization of the delimitation of the boundaries of the two landscapes and the estimates of their total conservation and restoration potentials with stakeholders (SODEFOR, OIPR, BNETD, others). He also reassured the Permanent Secretariat of his support in each of these steps and the rest of the process. of the delimitation of the boundaries of the two landscapes and the estimates of their total

conservation and restoration potentials with stakeholders (SODEFOR, OIPR, BNETD, others). He also reassured the Permanent Secretariat of his support in each of these steps and the rest of the process.

- ratified the process of operationalizing the MINEF deforestation alert management procedure.

- recommended to the Permanent Secretariat to organize consultation workshops for signatories, starting with WCF members, to develop the new CFI M&E vision and align with its operating mode and then present said vision and its basic principles to the Technical Committee.

- validated the proposal of the Permanent Secretariat to organize a field visit to one of the CFI priority forests before the next meeting of the Technical Committee.

4.2. Participation in SARA 2023 and COP 28

SARA 2023: Sustainable management of the Yapo-Abbé and Bossematié landscapes through Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).



On October 6, 2023, the Cocoa and Forests Initiative (CFI) organized an information and exchange session during SARA 2023, on public-private partnership (PPP) projects in the Yapo-Abbé and Bossématié landscapes. This event brought together government representatives, NGOs, private companies, and civil society organizations to discuss conservation and restoration initiatives in these priority forest landscapes.

Notable progress has been made, including defining landscape boundaries, estimating conservation and agroforestry needs, and engaging stakeholders. Next steps include detailed land cover mapping, engaging local communities, and co-designing projects for 2024.

The session provided clarity on objectives, progress made and future steps, highlighting the importance of collaboration between stakeholders to achieve conservation and sustainable development goals.

COP 28 (Dubai): A strengthened commitment to forest conservation and cocoa sustainability.

COP 28: Commitment of international actors on the CFI landscapes in Côte d'Ivoire

This event made it possible to present the progress made during the first phase of the ICF, as well as the next steps in the second phase. In particular, the development of public-private partnership projects for collective investments in the landscapes of Yapo-Abbé and Bossématié.



Priority landscapes, centered on the Yapo-Abbé Classified Forest and the Bossématié Nature Reserve, have been identified for collective investments for their conservation and rehabilitation. These efforts are supported by public-private partnerships that involve local communities.

At COP 28, CFI CAC signatories reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening these partnerships, including exploring innovative financing mechanisms, such as carbon credits, to support these initiatives. Ivorian Minister of Water and Forests Laurent Tchagba expressed Côte d'Ivoire's determination to promote sustainable cocoa farming, while decoupling agriculture from deforestation.

Mr. Laurent TCHAGBA, Minister of Water and Forests of Côte d'Ivoire, expressed his country's pride in being among the first signatories of this initiative: "The promotion of sustainable cocoa cultivation is possible in Côte d'Ivoire through the decoupling of agriculture and deforestation. We are resolutely committed to this."

Daan Wensing, CEO of IDH, also highlighted the importance of enhanced collaboration: "In terms of mobilizing resources, implementing plans and advancing public-private partnerships, the direct involvement of farmers, communities and local authorities will be essential to change the lives of farmers and the future of forests."





5. PERSPECTIVES



PERSPECTIVES

In the coming years, CFI plans to consolidate and deepen its achievements by encouraging public-private partnerships and community participation. Through this inclusive and participatory approach to CFI projects, solutions can be developed for the well-being of local communities.

To this end, awareness campaigns and training programs will be intensified to promote sustainable and inclusive management of forest landscapes. The CFI will also work on resource mobilization, which remains an important concern for the implementation of the 2022-2025 action plans.



CONCLUSION

The year 2023 was marked by progress in protecting forests and promoting sustainable cocoa production in Côte d'Ivoire. Strengthened collaborations between the public and private sectors, as well as increased involvement of local communities, have resulted in significant results.

These efforts have led to progress, particularly in reforestation of degraded areas, rehabilitation of forest landscapes and promotion of sustainable cocoa farming, resilient to the effects of climate change and, above all, traceable. These actions carried out in 2023 lay the foundations for more resilient and sustainable management of forest resources and the promotion of deforestation-free cocoa farming in Côte d'Ivoire.

Furthermore, the year 2023 has demonstrated that collaborative and innovative approaches are essential to reconcile economic development and environmental preservation, thus ensuring a sustainable future for Ivorian forests and the communities that depend on them.

As the CFI prepares for the years ahead, the commitment of all stakeholders is crucial to achieving the goals set out in the 2022-2025 Action Plan





**Cocoa &
Forests
Initiative**



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Danida