

Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program 2026-2030



LINDT & SPRÜNGLI

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Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program

Sustainability is a core element of the Lindt & Sprüngli Group's business strategy. We believe that producing premium chocolate requires acting ethically, respecting human rights and caring for the environment. As cocoa is integral to both our products and our strategy, we aim to source it according to a Responsible Sourcing Standard¹.

The Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program²

Since 2008, the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program has been our Responsible Sourcing Standard for cocoa. It was developed to address social and environmental impacts in our cocoa supply chain. The Farming Program aims to contribute to resilient livelihoods for cocoa farmers and their families and to promote Good Farming Practices³ and biodiverse landscapes. It is built on Rainforest Alliance certification and strengthened by targeted investments and activities beyond certification. These activities are carried out by the cocoa suppliers in our supply chain and other partners in the countries of origin. We aim to address the most material impacts in the cocoa supply chain through three strategic pillars:

- **Support cocoa excellence**
- **Invest in livelihoods of farming families**
- **Promote Good Farming Practices and biodiverse landscapes**



- At Lindt & Sprüngli, Responsible Sourcing Standards refer to certifications, assessments, programs, or specifications which consider social or environmental criteria for raw and packaging materials. For more information refer to our latest [Sustainability Statement](#).
- The Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program is an inclusive term for all initiatives carried out by Lindt & Sprüngli and/or its partners as part of its approach for sourcing cocoa with consideration of social and environmental factors. The scope and extent of the initiatives listed in this document varies across cocoa volumes, origins, communities and participating farmers. Measures and projects are defined based on the context of each country. As such, there may be local and regional variations such as:
 - Initiatives which cover all cocoa suppliers and/or volumes sourced (minimum requirements).
 - Initiatives which are linked to the volumes sourced through multi-year supply agreements and cover only farmer groups and farmers registered in the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program. These activities are not implemented where cocoa is only sourced as certified, without multi-year supply agreements in place.
 - Initiatives which benefit a subset of farmers registered in the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program.
- At Lindt & Sprüngli, Good Farming Practices may include Good Agricultural Practices (as defined by the [Food and Agriculture Organization](#)), agroforestry, production efficiency, and diversified farm systems. The comprehensive definition can be found in our latest [Sustainability Statement](#).

Looking ahead to 2030

Over the years, we have scaled and refined the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program. As we look ahead to 2030, the program is evolving further.

Over the coming five years, we will be working towards new commitments, deepening collaborations, and aligning with select global sustainability standards. Although the challenges of the cocoa sector are complex and systemic, we believe that targeted investments, strategic partnerships, and collective action can drive meaningful change.

Key elements of the Farming Program 2026-2030

- Aim to invest CHF 300 million in our cocoa Farming Program
- Rainforest Alliance certification as a basis for all cocoa sourced
- Incorporation of selected global due diligence standards and requirements of other relevant legislations
- Strategic partnerships with cocoa suppliers, connecting on-the-ground initiatives with the physical supply chain
- Targeted investments and complementary actions driving impact to address key issues in the cocoa sector such as child labor, living income, emissions and forest conservation, building on the foundation of the Rainforest Alliance certification
- Co-designing solutions with strategic partners and implementing targeted actions with support of expert organizations
- Theory of Change¹ and related monitoring, evaluation and learning frameworks
- Collective action involving stakeholders from the private sector, governments and NGO partners

¹ A Theory of Change (ToC) is a description of how and why a desired change is expected to happen in a particular context. It focuses on mapping out the area between what a program or change initiative is trying to achieve and the activities or interventions that need to take place to contribute to the desired impact. It does this by first identifying the desired long-term goals (impacts) and then works back from these to identify the conditions (outcomes, assumptions) required to work towards the desired goals and how outcomes relate to one another causally for the goals to occur. Refer to page 13 of this document for further information.

Strategic Pillars

Support cocoa excellence

To Lindt & Sprüngli, sourcing cocoa with purpose entails building more traceable and resilient cocoa supply chains. Our Farming Program is anchored in long-term supplier partnerships and compliance with selected global due diligence standards.

Focus areas and targets

Invest in responsible sourcing of cocoa

We aim to invest CHF 300 million into our cocoa Farming Program between 2026 and 2030.

Source certified and traceable cocoa

We aim to continue to source 100% of our cocoa volumes according to a Responsible Sourcing Standard annually between 2026 and 2030.



Invest in responsible sourcing of cocoa

Our planned investment in cocoa includes funding of projects and initiatives as well as certification costs. These investments also allow us to provide our suppliers and implementation partners with tools, training, and the financial means to work towards our Farming Program objectives.

Our approach

- **As part of our global Responsible Sourcing Approach¹, we embed social and environmental aspects into our cocoa sourcing practices including:**
 - outlining our expectations towards our cocoa suppliers through, for example, our Supplier Code of Conduct, Human Rights Policy and No-Deforestation Policy. See our [Governance Documents](#) for further information;
 - conducting environmental and human rights risk assessments; and
 - implementing a due diligence process aimed at preventing, mitigating, and addressing adverse human rights and environmental impacts across our organization and supply chain.
- **We build long-term strategic partnerships with cocoa suppliers to foster stability, trust, and shared responsibility. These serve as a basis for activities in Farming Program countries, linking the initiatives of the program to the physical supply chain where possible:**
 - establishing multi-year supply agreements for the major share of cocoa volumes covering commercial, quality and sustainability requirements for cocoa sourcing;
 - defining and collaborating on the implementation of Lindt & Sprüngli guidelines for suppliers that complement Rainforest Alliance certification requirements and actions; and
 - requiring farmers and farmer groups to be registered to the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program.

Source certified and traceable cocoa

As of 2026, we require our sourced cocoa to meet the requirements of the Rainforest Alliance certification. The [Rainforest Alliance Sustainable Agriculture Standards](#) define key requirements for first-mile traceability, farming practices, human rights and environmental stewardship. Depending on the traceability types as defined by the Rainforest Alliance² — Mass Balance, Segregation, or Identity Preserved — certified cocoa may be mixed or kept separate from non-certified cocoa, and in the case of Identity Preserved, certified cocoa can be traced back to specific Farming Program farmer groups.

Core initiatives through 2030

- Suppliers and registered Farming Program farmers follow the Rainforest Alliance traceability requirements;
- suppliers collect the GPS coordinates and household data of registered Farming Program farmers; and
- we implement additional regulatory-specific traceability requirements where relevant.



Strategic Pillars

Invest in livelihoods of farming families

Cocoa farmers worldwide are essential for the sustainability and long-term success of our business. However, many cocoa farmers struggle to build resilient livelihoods from growing cocoa. Especially in West Africa, many live below the poverty line and child labor remains a persistent challenge. Through the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program, we aim to contribute to the economic resilience of farming households, address child labor risks and support farming communities to promote children's rights.

Focus areas and targets

Support farming communities to promote children's rights

We aim to maintain 100% of our cocoa volume from child labor risk countries as covered by a Child Labor Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) or another due diligence system that is being rolled out or is implemented, with Mass Balance included, annually between 2026 and 2030.

We aim to support 300 program communities with a community development program designed to reduce child labor risks by 2030.

Contribute to the economic resilience of farming households

We aim to implement a Living Income Program¹ to support 5,000 cocoa farmers in West Africa by 2027.



¹ A Living Income Program is any project or program explicitly designed with the goal of helping close the living income gap of participants.

Lindt & Sprüngli is committed to respecting human rights through implementing a due diligence process aimed at preventing, mitigating, or ceasing our adverse human rights and environmental impacts throughout the organization and our supply chain. Through our ongoing assessments, we have identified those human rights issues that are particularly relevant to our business, industry, and supply chains. Within cocoa supply chains, child labor and living income remain among the most salient challenges. Looking ahead to 2030, we will continue to strengthen and expand our efforts to address salient human rights risks in cocoa. This includes conducting human rights impact assessments in selected high-risk origins and implementing actions through the Farming Program to address identified human rights risks.

Support farming communities to promote children's rights

Lindt & Sprüngli strongly condemns all forms of child labor. In agricultural value chains, especially in the cocoa sector in West African countries, child labor remains a persistent and complex challenge. It is driven by systemic factors including farming households poverty, high labor costs of cocoa production, limited access to education, weak enforcement of regulations, and different social norms.

Our approach to addressing child labor risks depends on the supply chain and the country context. For farmers registered in the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program in high-risk countries, we support the implementation of a Child Labor Monitoring & Remediation System (CLMRS) as a foundational due diligence tool to address child labor risks.

If the CLMRS approach is deemed unsuitable, alternative systems or strategies to address child labor are developed and implemented, according to the local context. For farmers not registered in the Farming Program, we rely on the requirements of, and verification through, the Rainforest Alliance certification.

For Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, Lindt & Sprüngli has developed a child protection approach targeting registered Farming Program farmers. The approach is based on the CLMRS and is combined with complementary actions beyond individual households.

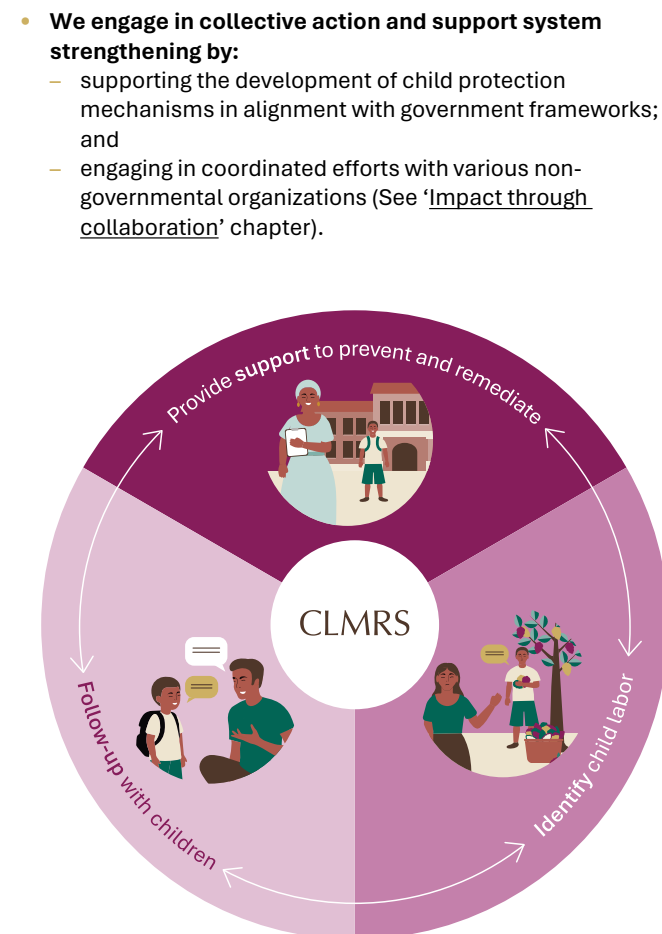
A CLMRS aims to identify children in, or at risk of child labor, to provide ongoing guidance, and to support improving their situation and to follow their progress over time.¹ The CLMRS is implemented by our suppliers. We work with the International Cocoa Initiative (ICI) as a technical partner to guide and oversee the CLMRS implementation by our suppliers, aligning with industry standards and best practices.

Since child labor is a systemic issue, it cannot be solved on a broader scale solely by engaging individual households and supporting individual children in the supply chain. For this reason, we complement the CLMRS with prevention strategies at a community level, collective action and with efforts to strengthen public child protection systems. These efforts aim to address root causes of child labor, while aligning with and supporting public child protection systems.

Core initiatives through 2030

- **We support the implementation of a Child Labor Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) by:**
 - overseeing our suppliers' implementation of the CLMRS;
 - collaborating with technical partners to help manage data quality and oversee implementation on the ground; and
 - supporting suppliers to set-up field teams with sufficient capacity and expertise for improved identification, prevention and remediation of child labor.
- **We promote community-level child labor prevention by:**
 - investing in education infrastructure and broader educational opportunities for children;
 - funding the formation and operation of community labor groups to mitigate adult labor shortages;

- contributing to women's economic empowerment, through financing the creation of Village Savings and Loans Associations² (VSLAs); and
- engaging partners to deliver training and engagement to shift social norms around child labor to sensitize communities.



Adapted from International Cocoa Initiative (ICI)

¹ This definition of CLMRS aligns with the industry standard for CLMRS as per [International Cocoa Initiative \(ICI\) core criteria](#).

² According to the [World Cocoa Foundation](#), VSLA is a type of Accumulating Savings and Credit Association formed as a group of 15–30 people, mainly women, who choose to work together and pool their savings.

Contribute to the economic resilience of farming households

Poverty among cocoa households is one of the underlying root causes of the cocoa sector's challenges. At Lindt & Sprüngli, we believe that cocoa farmers deserve to earn an income that is sufficient to support a decent standard of living.

The Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program strives to contribute to building resilient livelihoods for farmers, their families, and farming communities. Our goal is to help improve the income situation of the farmers in our cocoa value chain. We aim to address this issue through a combination of measures, focused on increasing farm productivity and resilience, and supporting income diversification and community investment. Though this goal applies across our Farming Program origin countries, measures and projects are defined based on the context of each country. As such, there may be local and regional variations.

Building upon the experience we have gained since the introduction of the Farming Program in 2008, we are piloting a Living Income Program aimed at helping to close the income gap toward a living income for cocoa farming households. The basis of this is multi-year support of selected farmer groups. To foster farm investment in productivity and resilience, we finance the direct provision of cash transfers to cocoa farming households. The financial incentives as part of the Living Income Program are structured to enable Good Farming Practices such as pruning cocoa trees to improve yields and to foster children's school attendance.

The pilot phase will be guided by a learning agenda to evaluate the effectiveness of core initiatives through structured monitoring and impact assessments. We will also conduct micro-pilots to test innovative solutions to addressing emerging challenges. Based on the insights generated and stakeholder input, we will drive ongoing refinement and adaptation of the Living Income Program.

Core initiatives through 2030

- **We support organizational development of farmer organizations by:**
 - strengthening collaboration with selected farmer organizations; and
 - supporting initiatives that develop the capacity of farmer organizations to improve market access.
- **We promote farm productivity and resilience by:**
 - providing funds for training and support to cocoa farmers to improve Good Farming Practices;
 - supporting the facilitation of improved access to farm services and inputs to enable farm investments; and
 - offering financial support to help enable and incentivize farm investment.
- **We invest in household resilience and financial skills by:**
 - supporting our partners to set up and expand Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs);
 - promoting alternative income streams through on and off-farm diversification initiatives implemented by our partners; and
 - supporting training programs in financial literacy and business skills to help improve household financial stability.



Strategic Pillars

Promote Good Farming Practices and biodiverse landscapes

Cocoa is not only integral to our products, it also accounts for the largest share of our carbon footprint. Through the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program, we work towards no deforestation¹, promote agroforestry, and support forest protection and restoration. We combine on-farm and landscape-level actions with the aim to support forest conservation and reduce emissions.

Focus areas and targets**Promote Good Farming Practices**

We commit to reduce absolute scope 3 FLAG greenhouse gas emissions by 30.3% by 2030 and by 72% by 2050 from a 2020 base year.

We commit to working towards no deforestation in cocoa and our other primary deforestation-linked supply chains (palm oil, soy, and pulp- and paper-based packaging).

We aim to support the establishment of 20,000 hectares of advanced agroforestry between 2025 and 2030.

Support biodiversity conservation in target landscapes

We aim to support the restoration of 20,000 hectares of forests between 2026 and 2030.

We aim to support five landscape initiatives for forest conservation between 2026 and 2030.



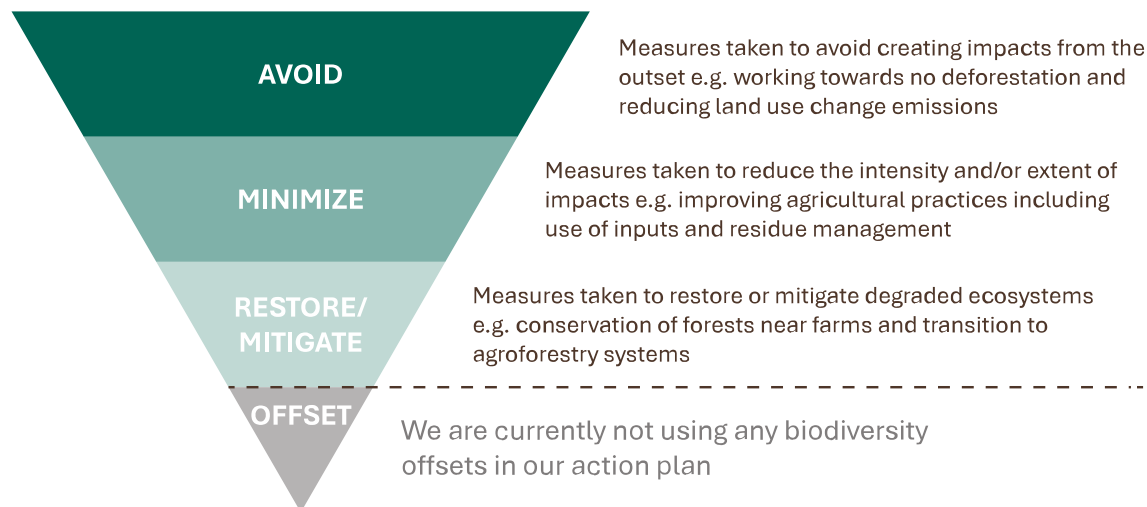
¹ For the definition of deforestation-free, see our [No-Deforestation Policy](#) and [No-Deforestation Guidelines](#).

We work to protect and conserve the natural ecosystems we rely on for raw materials. Using a mitigation hierarchy, Lindt & Sprüngli prioritizes actions: firstly avoid risks and potential negative impacts on biodiversity, then reduce risks, and finally restore negative impacts. This includes promoting Good Farming Practices (on-farm) and financing ecosystem conservation and restoration within priority cocoa landscapes beyond farm boundaries (off-farm). We are currently not using any biodiversity offsets in our action plan. While our approaches may vary at the local level, depending on national and regional level risks and contexts, we set our targets based on each mitigation level.

Promote Good Farming Practices (on-farm)

Promoting Good Farming Practices helps to reduce carbon emissions, develop cocoa landscapes that are more resilient to environmental stress, while supporting farmers to improve their livelihoods. Cocoa production accounts for the largest share of our carbon footprint, primarily due to historical land-use change, which makes Good Farming Practices a critical lever for Lindt & Sprüngli in meeting its near- and long-term emissions reduction targets.

To reduce our greenhouse gas emissions in cocoa production, we work to strengthen traceability, reduce emissions related to land-use change by implementing our [No-Deforestation Policy](#), and fund programs with the aim to support farmers to improve land management and transition to agroforestry systems.



Core initiatives through 2030

- **We work towards no-deforestation by:**
 - implementing our No-Deforestation Policy with a cut-off date of no later than 31 December, 2020; and
 - following our [No-Deforestation Guidelines](#), strengthening traceability and applying risk mitigation strategies such as certification, satellite monitoring and field verification.
- **We aim to minimize potentially harmful environmental impacts by:**
 - requiring Rainforest Alliance certification to help support adherence to environmental safeguards, agrochemical use requirements, and water protection;
 - funding suppliers and partners to provide farmer training and support to improve Good Agricultural Practices¹ such as Integrated Pest Management², soil preservation, and the use of cover crops and mulching; and
 - funding initiatives to test and support cocoa farmers to transition to low-carbon inputs and residue management, and improve productivity.
- **We promote agroforestry systems in cocoa farming by:**
 - supporting initiatives that promote agroforestry adoption through training, provision of shade trees and guidance to help farmers diversify crops and explore opportunities for benefiting from agroforestry by-products; and
 - funding the implementation of an Advanced Agroforestry³ program for select farmers with the aim to reduce carbon emissions, which can contribute to biodiversity and soil health.

¹ Lindt & Sprüngli applies the [Food and Agriculture Organization](#)'s definition of Good Agricultural Practices, which are a set of recommended techniques and can encompass practices such as soil protection and weeding, pruning, shade management, soil fertility management, and pest and disease management.

² Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an ecosystem approach to crop production and protection that combines different management strategies and practices to grow healthy crops and minimize the use of pesticides.

³ We apply SWISSCO's 2030 roadmap (ambition 4) definition of advanced agroforestry systems which is defined by cocoa with 30-40% shade cover at maturity on the area under agroforestry, with at least 70 multi-purpose non-cocoa trees per hectare that are two strata (or vertical layers of vegetation within an agroforestry system) above cocoa.

Support biodiversity conservation in target landscapes (off-farm)

Forests in cocoa farming landscapes support biodiversity and provide key ecosystem services that help cocoa production and can contribute to improved local livelihoods. These areas face pressures from land-use change driven by agricultural expansion and resource use, which cannot be addressed by individual farmers or companies alone.

To help reduce risks of future deforestation and promote biodiverse landscapes, Lindt & Sprüngli engages in collaborative approaches that extend beyond farm boundaries. Through the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program, we participate in landscape initiatives that bring together communities, governments, cocoa sector stakeholders, and NGOs to develop and implement shared environmental goals and long-term plans. Together we focus on target landscapes based on their importance for cocoa sourcing and their conservation value.

These landscape initiatives support efforts aimed at forest conservation and restoration, recognizing that healthy forests contribute to ecosystem services such as soil fertility, pollination, water availability, and pest and disease control. These elements are vital to agricultural productivity and resilience against climate change. Effective landscape initiatives require strong governance and active community involvement to foster local stewardship of natural resources.

Core initiatives through 2030

- **We engage in landscape initiatives which may:**
 - contribute to the development of landscape management plans with shared stakeholder vision and resources;
 - support the monitoring of deforestation trends and underlying drivers at a jurisdictional level to inform interventions;
 - raise awareness of environmental and forestry laws and encourage compliance; and
 - support community and farmer livelihood activities that address underlying drivers of deforestation.
- **We support forest restoration initiatives which may:**
 - contribute to the protection and management of existing protected areas;
 - support the formalization and strengthen the governance of locally managed forests or natural resource areas;
 - encourage tree planting of native species and removal of invasive species;
 - support maintenance and protection of restored areas to allow natural regeneration;
 - promote connectivity between fragmented forests to help wildlife movement; and
 - provide support to organizations working to preserve vital habitats and species.



Foundation for continuous learning

The Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program's Theory of Change provides a reliable foundation for the Farming Program, guiding our strategy and project design. In addition, combining a structured framework for monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) with transparent reporting makes our progress measurable and helps inform our actions.

Theory of Change

Our Theory of Change provides a foundational framework to design our Farming Program projects and support continuous learning. It was developed in collaboration with external experts from the private sector, research institutions, and NGOs and is aligned with material impacts in the cocoa supply chain. Based on this framework, Farming Program activities are defined with implementation partners. This approach allows us to adapt the interventions to local context, while maintaining alignment with our Farming Program objectives.

Monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL)

We apply a structured approach to inform decision-making and drive improvement. Our MEL framework includes the following levels:

- Rainforest Alliance certification audits of certificate holders, including farmer groups and suppliers;
- our project partners report at least annually on progress against agreed targets. We assess compliance with our guidelines and their performance through reports and, where relevant, field visits;
- we review progress on the Theory of Change using field data and remote sensing; and
- we translate insights into concrete adjustments with the aim to continuously strengthen our activities.

Reporting

Our activities vary by partner and country. We publish annual updates on scale and progress in the Lindt & Sprüngli Sustainability Statement, of which select metrics are subject to independent assurance. For more details, please refer to our latest [Sustainability Statements](#).



Impact through collaboration

As part of our 2030 strategy, we will continue to engage in partnerships to collaborate and innovate with the goal to support positive change in our cocoa value chain by 2030.

Through the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program and broader initiatives, we work with suppliers, peers, NGOs, and research institutions to share expertise, foster innovation, and support progress towards our sustainability objectives. These partnerships focus on capacity development, knowledge exchange, and joint action on issues that extend beyond the farmgate.

By embracing strategic partnerships and collective action, we aim to continue contributing to resilient livelihoods for cocoa farmers and their families, promoting Good Farming Practices and biodiverse landscapes, and delivering cocoa excellence that is rooted in responsibility.

Select partnerships

- Co-designing implementation plans for the Farming Program with suppliers and other implementation partners
- Engaging with NGOs and expert organizations such as:
 - International Cocoa Initiative (ICI) – ICI is an organization focused on advancing child protection systems;
 - Helvetas – The organization is implementing farmer livelihoods and environmental projects in Madagascar; and
 - Agromap – Agromap is implementing an advanced agroforestry program in Côte d'Ivoire which we support.
- Collaborating with universities and research institutions for evidence-based approaches and impact assessments

- Participating in industry platforms and coalitions such as:
 - World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) – Lindt & Sprüngli has been a member since 2015 and is supporting initiatives like the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI).
 - National Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa in Europe (ISCOs) – Through the ISCOs, we are contributing to national-level dialogue and collaborative action on sustainable cocoa sourcing and sector-wide improvements.
 - Cocoa and Livelihoods Education Framework (CLEF) – CLEF is helping advance farmer education and livelihood strategies through shared learning and best practices in Côte d'Ivoire.
 - System Change Architecture for Learning Excellence (SCALE) – The SCALE initiative is designed to strengthen learning systems and educational outcomes in Ghana.

Please see the [Lindt & Sprüngli Sustainability memberships & partnerships](#) page for additional information.



Disclaimer: Certain statements and illustrations contained in the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program 2026-2030 are forward-looking (including objectives, targets, plans, and trends). Forward-looking statements are based on the current beliefs and expectations of Lindt & Sprüngli regarding future events, and are subject to significant known and unknown risks and uncertainties. These statements are not guarantees of future performance or developments. Further, actual results or other developments may differ materially from the expectations expressed in the forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statement represents the perspective from the date the statement is made only. Lindt & Sprüngli does not undertake any obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

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