



LINDT & SPRÜNGLI

Cocoa No-Deforestation & Agroforestry Action Plan Progress Report 2024

Contents

Foreword	2
The Cocoa & Forests Initiative – Details	3
CFI progress tracking	5
Progress tracking table – Ghana	5
Progress tracking table – Côte d'Ivoire	7

Foreword

As a consumer goods company sourcing agricultural ingredients, we recognize our intrinsic relationship with nature and our responsibility towards natural ecosystems we rely on.

Agricultural commodity production has had, and continues to have, a detrimental effect on natural ecosystems, particularly in forested areas. In our endeavors concerning the protection and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, we focus on deforestation in our supply chains. Conserving biodiversity and natural ecosystems is also one of the main objectives of the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program for cocoa.

As a member of the Cocoa and Forest Initiative (CFI) led by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), Lindt & Sprüngli is reporting on its progress towards targets based on a three year action plan (2023–2025) defined by the initiative. The CFI seeks to address the systemic challenge of deforestation linked to cocoa and the restoration of degraded forests in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire. This report outlines our progress towards our no-deforestation and agroforestry targets for the 2023–2024 cocoa season.

For more detailed information regarding our approach towards biodiversity and ecosystems, addressing deforestation within our cocoa supply chain, or responsible sourcing, please refer to our [Sustainability Report 2024](#). The Lindt & Sprüngli Sustainability Report 2024 was prepared with reference to the GRI Standards and contains selected disclosures from the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS). Information that was previously included in our No-Deforestation and Agroforestry Progress Report is now covered in our Sustainability Report 2024 and can be accessed through the following links:

- **Biodiversity and ecosystems:** The biodiversity chapter of the Sustainability Report 2024 includes a description of our policies and approach for conserving biodiversity and natural ecosystems, avoiding deforestation in our supply chain, the use of satellite imagery for deforestation

monitoring, our commitment in line with the CFI, and main objectives of our No-Deforestation and Agroforestry Action Plan. Further details can also be found in our [Deforestation Policy](#).

- **Responsible sourcing:** In this chapter, you will find information concerning our approach to responsible sourcing including the implementation of the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program for cocoa and the use of certifications. For further information, also see our [Supplier Code of Conduct](#) and [Human Rights Policy](#).
- **Rural development:** This chapter of the Sustainability Report 2024 covers the progress in the implementation of the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program in the cocoa origin countries, our engagement with farmers, our traceability approach, and the use of third party verification.

2024 summary

In 2024, the total number of farmers participating in the Lindt & Sprüngli Farming Program decreased (Ghana: 86,980 (2023) vs 61,070 (2024); Côte d'Ivoire: 44,315 (2023) vs 40,848 (2024)). Despite this, based on supplier data, we continued to be on track to achieve most of our targets in 2024. The distribution of multi-purpose trees was lower in 2024, which is a result of our shift towards a more quality-oriented approach to ensure seedling survival and accompanying farmers through their journey to integrate agroforestry with cocoa.



The Cocoa & Forests Initiative – Details

Collective action to end cocoa related deforestation

The governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana and 36 leading cocoa and chocolate companies, representing 85% of global cocoa usage, joined together in the [Cocoa & Forests Initiative](#) to end deforestation and restore forest areas. Their combined actions play a crucial role in protecting and restoring biodiversity, sequestering carbon stocks in West African forests, and addressing climate change in line with the Paris Climate Agreement. The Cocoa & Forests Initiative delivers on Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Action) and 15 (Life on Land).

The Cocoa & Forests Initiative is a public private partnership based on frameworks for action (Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana) and action plans for the private sector and public sector that spell out commitments to:

- protect and restore forests,
- promote sustainable cocoa production and farmers' livelihoods,
- engage communities and boost social inclusion.

To learn more, follow [#CocoaAndForests](#) on social media, or visit [Cocoa & Forests Initiative](#).



The Cocoa & Forest Initiative – details continued

The first priority is the protection and restoration of forests that have been degraded.

To this end, the governments and companies have pledged no further conversion of forest land for cocoa production and have committed to the phased elimination of illegal cocoa production and sourcing in protected areas.

Both countries are introducing a differentiated approach for improved management of forest reserves, based on the level of degradation of forests. In 2019, the government of Côte d'Ivoire adopted and published a new forest code which, among other things, put forth policies for the promotion of cocoa agroforestry to restore degraded land, improve forest cover, and promote sustainable livelihoods and agriculture in the classified forests and rural zones. Both governments have shared maps on forest cover and land-use, and continue to update the maps, including socio-economic data on cocoa farmers, to inform private sector investments. Companies have made significant investments in the promotion of cocoa agroforestry and the restoration of degraded forests.

To ensure effective implementation and monitoring of these commitments, companies have pledged to develop traceability from farm to the first purchase point for their own purchases of cocoa. They also work with governments to ensure an effective national framework for traceability encompassing all traders in the supply chain and to anticipate forthcoming due diligence legislation. The companies will similarly share information with the national satellite monitoring platforms to effectively monitor progress on CFI, as well as proactively address threats of new deforestation.

The next critical priority is sustainable agricultural production and increased farmer incomes.

These are essential prerequisites for reducing pressure for agricultural encroachment into forests and strengthening the resilience of cocoa farmers to climate change.

The governments and companies are accelerating investment in long-term productivity of cocoa in order to grow “more cocoa on less land.” Key actions include provision of planting materials for the promotion of cocoa agroforestry, training in good agricultural practices, soil fertility, land tenure reform, and capacity building of farmers’ organizations. Sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers are being accelerated through food crop diversification, agricultural inter-cropping, and development of mixed agroforestry systems and shade-grown cocoa.

The final area of focus is strong community engagement and social inclusion, with a particular focus on women and youth.

The governments and companies have committed to full and effective consultation and participation of cocoa farmers in the design and implementation of key actions, and promotion of community-based management models for forest protection and restoration. The governments have adopted social and environmental safeguards and are assessing and mitigating the social impacts and risks of any proposed land-use changes on affected communities.



CFI progress tracking

Progress tracking table – Ghana

Commitments	Actions	Indicators	Target through direct investment (Oct 2023–Sept 2024)	2023 (Oct 2022–Sept 2023)	2024 (Oct 2023–Sept 2024)	Comments
Forest protection and restoration						
1. No further conversion of any forest land (as defined under national regulations, and using High Carbon Stock and High Conservation Value methodologies for cocoa production)	1.1 Conduct farm mapping within supply chain to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest land	# and % of farms mapped in direct supply chain (CFI-a)	>90%	96% (83,121 mapped farms out of 86,980)	96% (87,174 mapped farms out of 90,606)	Mapping ongoing for newly joined farmers
	1.2 Conduct deforestation risk assessments in all sourcing areas	# of hectares in the direct supply chain with deforestation risk assessments completed (CFI-i)	>90%	100% (139,007 ha)	118,741 (100%)	
4. In highly degraded off reserve forest lands, cocoa production and sourcing will continue, supported by climate smart cocoa (CSC) and Modified Taungya System (MTS)	4.1 Train farmers in off-reserve forest lands in CSC production including cocoa agroforestry systems	Farmers provided with technical assistance to be more resilient to climate change and reduce and remove carbon emissions on farm (e.g., CSC) (ENV-07)	>35,000	45,919	40,125	
6. Public sector forest law enforcement and governance will be strengthened	6.1 Promote awareness-raising campaigns to educate farmers on forest law enforcement and tree tenure provisions	# Farmers informed, trained, and/or consulted on forest policy/law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration (CFI-f)	18,500	20,687	18,686	
8. Public-private collaboration will be enhanced to identify good practices and technical guidance for forest conservation and restoration, shade grown cocoa, and MTS in Forest Reserves	8.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	# Multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm planting (ENV-09)	>270,000	262,416	219,326	Decrease in trees distributed reflects a strategic refocus on quality and farmer impact vs quantity

CFI progress tracking continued

Commitments	Actions	Indicators	Target through direct investment (Oct 2023–Sept 2024)	2023 (Oct 2022–Sept 2023)	2024 (Oct 2023–Sept 2024)	Comments
Sustainable production and farmer livelihoods						
9. Promote investment in long-term productivity of high quality cocoa in environmentally sustainable manner and grow “more cocoa on less land”	9.1 Distribute improved cocoa planting material	# Improved cocoa seedlings distributed to farmers (PF-IND-02)	>200,000	200,000	200,595	
	9.2 Train farmers and producer organizations in the latest Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs)	# Farmers provided with technical assistance (based on plans) to professionalize & optimize cocoa farming practices (FL-01)	>50,000	55,605	51,503	
10. Promote sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers	10.2 Promote farm-level crop diversification	# Individuals provided with technical assistance (based on plans) to increase income from non-cocoa sources / Income Generating Activities (IGAs) (FL-03)	>4,000	9,957	3,993	
11. Promote financial inclusion and innovation to deepen farmers’ access to working capital and investment funds required for production and cocoa farm rehabilitation and renovation	11.1 Promote expansion of farmer savings	# Individuals provided with technical assistance to save money and access finance (FL-04)	>4,000	19,826	14,686	
		# of members of Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) groups in the current year (CFI-e)	>5,000	14,062	14,686	
		# of VSLA groups in the current year (CFI-d)	250	580	553	
Social inclusion and community engagement						
15. Development of action plans for forest protection and restoration, and sustainable agricultural intensification that are gender and youth sensitive	15.1 Develop forest protection & restoration and agriculture intensification action plans that are youth and gender sensitive	# of individuals participating in women’s empowerment projects and activities (CFI-k)	>4,000	5,975	10,792	
		# of individuals participating in youth focused projects and activities (age 15-35) (CFI-j)	>1,500	2,615	1,730	

CFI progress tracking continued

Progress tracking table – Côte d'Ivoire

Commitments	Actions	Indicators	Target through direct investment (Oct 2023–Sept 2024)	2023 (Oct 2022–Sept 2023)	2024 (Oct 2023–Sept 2024)	Comments
Forest protection and restoration						
1. No further conversion of any forest land (as defined under national regulations, and using High Carbon Stock and High Conservation Value methodologies) for cocoa production	1.1 Conduct farm mapping within direct supply chain to identify and collect cocoa farm boundaries to ensure cocoa is not being sourced from forest lands, National Parks and Reserves, and Classified Forests	# and % of farms mapped in direct supply chain (CFI-a)	0.9	99% (44,835 farms mapped out of 44,315)	97% (44,622 mapped plots out of 45,794)	Mapping ongoing for newly joined farmers.
	1.2 Conduct deforestation risk assessments in all direct sourcing areas	# of hectares in the direct supply chain with deforestation risk assessments completed (CFI-i)	0.9	100% of mapped farms with risk assessment (114,340ha)	114,368 (100%)	
5. Public enforcement of the new Forest Code and its subsequent guidelines, and public sector governance will be strengthened	5.1 Promote and participate in awareness-raising campaigns to educate farmers on the new Forest Code	# Farmers informed, trained, and / or consulted on forest policy/law enforcement, forest protection, and restoration (CFI-f)	>6,500	8,855	11,656	
7. Public-private collaboration to identify good practices, technical guidance and incentive mechanisms for forest restoration and agroforestry	7.1 Support distribution and planting of multi-purpose trees for on-farm restoration via agroforestry	Farmers provided with technical assistance to adopt and expand agroforestry (ENV-05)	5,000	12,577	22,280	
		# Multi-purpose trees distributed for on-farm planting (ENV-09)	>300,000	335,399	275,954	Decrease in trees distributed reflects a strategic refocus on quality and farmer impact vs quantity
	7.3 Train farmers in climate smart cocoa (CSC) production including cocoa agroforestry systems	Farmers provided with technical assistance to be more resilient to climate change and reduce and remove carbon emissions on farm (e.g., CSC) (ENV-07)	>10,000	15,019	19,474	

CFI progress tracking continued

Commitments	Actions	Indicators	Target through direct investment (Oct 2023–Sept 2024)	2023 (Oct 2022–Sept 2023)	2024 (Oct 2023–Sept 2024)	Comments
Farmer livelihoods						
9. Promote investment in long-term productivity of cocoa in environmentally suitable areas in order to grow “more cocoa on less land”	9.3 Train farmers in Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs)	Farmers provided with technical assistance (based on plans) to professionalize & optimize cocoa farming practices (FL-01)	>20,000	30,375	28,118	
10. Promote sustainable livelihoods and income diversification for cocoa farmers	10.1 Promote farm-level crop diversification	Individuals provided with technical assistance (based on plans) to increase income from non-cocoa sources / Income Generating Activities (IGAs) (FL-03)	>2,000	4,251	6,393	
11. Promote financial inclusion and innovation to deepen farmers’ access to working capital and investment funds for production and farm renovation	11.1 Offer financial products to farmers and promote farmer savings	# Individuals provided with technical assistance to save money and access finance (FL-04)	>1,500	7,599	5,152	
		# of members of Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) groups in the current year (CFI-e)	>1,500	3,570	5,152	
		# of VSLA groups in the current year (CFI-d)	>80	144	212	
Social inclusion and community engagement						
15. Development of action plans for forest protection and restoration, and sustainable agricultural intensification that are gender and youth sensitive	15.1 Develop forest protection & restoration and agriculture intensification action plans that are gender and youth sensitive	# of individuals participating in women’s empowerment projects and activities (CFI-k)	1,000	3,570	3,198	
		# of individuals participating in youth focused projects and activities (age 15-35) (CFI-j)	>500	505	525	



LINDT & SPRÜNGLI