



Feed the Future Partnership for Climate Smart Cocoa Report
Annual Report
October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017
AID-OAA-A-16-000024



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1. Executive Summary

The Feed the Future Partnership for Climate Smart Cocoa (CSC) is a four-year program led by the World Cocoa Foundation in consortium with ACIDI/VOCA. The Program focuses on strategy development and piloting climate smart agriculture (CSA) innovations. After year one the program has come into its own in both the Central American and West African regions. The Program is developing improved predictions, concrete knowledge products, and landscape overviews that support collaborative strategy building, precompetitive learning, and pilot initiation.

During this reporting period, WCF established key governance systems and partnerships in each country on strategy development and pilot implementation. WCF has initiated the CSC strategy development component through a series of technical working group (TWG) meetings in each country. In addition, ACIDI/VOCA completed the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) on cocoa agroforestry market systems in Liberia. The CSC ‘inception report’ was developed with contributions from key knowledge partners, mainly the Feed the Future Learning Community, the CGIAR) Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), as well as ACIDI/VOCA, Bioversity International and Rainforest Alliance. WCF has also initiated pilot activities on screening for heat and drought tolerance planting material; agroforestry linkages consultancy in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana; and the development of a CSC curriculum. WCF also collaborates on additional pilots including on land tree tenure in Ghana and shaded cocoa in Nicaragua.

WCF, in conjunction with the Prince of Wales’ International Sustainability Unit and IDH - the Sustainable Trade Initiative, launched the Cocoa and Forest Initiative (CFI) with 35 companies to act to end deforestation and forest degradation in the cocoa sector, beginning in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana. WCF is ensuring alignment between the CSC Program strategy and the Frameworks for Action developed under CFI.

The coming year will feature increased attention to: 1) developing the CSC strategies in West Africa and Latin America; 2) further implementation of pilot activities; 3) the selection of additional pilots; 4) aligning CSC with the CFI Frameworks for Action; and 5) implementing M&E systems and learning processes to ensure the development of an CSC investment plan.

2. Background

The Feed the Future Partnership for Climate Smart Cocoa is a four-year Program led by the World Cocoa Foundation in consortium with ACIDI/VOCA. This Program brings together USAID and nine private sector companies (Barry Callebaut, Cargill, Inc. (Cargill), ECOM Agrotrade Ltd. (ECOM), The Hershey Company (Hershey), Lindt & Sprüngli (Lindt), Mars, Inc. (Mars), Nestlé, Olam International Ltd (Olam), and Tooton) to address the challenges of climate change and deforestation in cocoa-producing landscapes. The Program focuses on two geographic clusters – West Africa (Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, and Liberia) and Latin America (Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua).

The CSC Program works through the cocoa and non-cocoa value chains to coordinate and leverage private sector investment in developing climate smart agriculture (CSA) in West Africa and Latin America. This requires demonstrating to industry the predicted impacts of climate change on supply, objective analyses of the trade-offs between different CSA practices, a sector-wide strategy, and innovative tools and services to support effective engagement and investment.

The CSC Program began with an initial investment of \$1.7 million from USAID and approximately \$400,000 from WCF and its member companies. With these funds, the CSC Program is supporting strategy development and pilot activities in the areas of farmer training curricula, agroforestry market systems linkages, and drought-tolerant planting material.

The CSC Program adopts a “value chain approach” by supporting CSA mainstreaming at different entry points in the value chain. The overall goal of the CSC Program is to increase private sector investment and engagement that promotes and supports the adoption of CSA among smallholders in cocoa-producing landscapes.

To achieve this goal, the CSC Program focuses on two objectives:

- **Strategy:** Implementing a shared cocoa/agroforestry strategy for addressing climate change threats to farmer livelihoods and ecosystems in cocoa-growing regions.
- **Piloting Innovations:** Using lessons learned from successful pilots to guide private sector investment in targeted CSA activities to improve resilience for farmers, other supply chain partners, and ecosystems.

On March 16, 2017 WCF, in partnership with IDH and ISU, convened twelve leading cocoa industry partners¹ to sign a [Statement of Intent](#) in London to work together, with others, to end deforestation and forest degradation in the cocoa value chain, beginning in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. Since then, through this [Cocoa and Forest Initiative](#), we have been working with key government and CSO stakeholders and a total 35 signatory companies to develop joint frameworks for action for Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana that will be presented at the 23rd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 23) to the UN Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in November 2017 in Bonn, Switzerland. We are working with the same government and NGO partners on initiatives for both CFI and the CSC program. It is expected that the operationalization of the Framework will create motivation for greater engagement and investment in CSC.

3. Comparison of accomplishments against and targets for established performance and impact indicators

Comparison of accomplishments against and targets for established performance and impact indicators – year 1					
#	Indicator	Baseline	Y1 Target	Y1 Actual	Notes
Climate-Smart Cocoa Main Objective/Goal : Increased private sector investment and engagement that promotes and supports the adoption of CSA among smallholders in cocoa-producing landscapes	Amount of investment leveraged in U.S. dollars, from private and public sources, for climate change as a result of USG assistance (4.8.2-10)	\$2.1 M (\$1.7 USAID, \$400k companies)	0	\$25,000	\$25k from World Bank to support Climate Focus report on company commitments to address deforestation in the cocoa sector
	Number of participating private sector companies and corporations implementing CSA technologies and activities	9	9 (0 additional)	11 (Latin America) + 9 (West-Africa) = total 20	Nicaragua: 3, Honduras: 3, El Salvador: 2, Dominican R: 3 West Africa: 9
	Number of CSA technologies and activities newly adopted by participating companies	0	1	0	CSA technologies are currently in pilot phase
#	Indicator	Baseline	Y1 Target	Y1 Actual	Notes
Climate-Smart Cocoa IR 1: Implementation of a shared cocoa/agroforestry strategy for addressing climate change threats to farmer livelihoods in cocoa growing regions	Existence of Climate-Smart Cocoa member ratified shared strategy document addressing climate change threats to farmer livelihoods in cocoa growing regions	0	0	0	Too early, this document will be developed out of the inception report in year 2, which is yet to be sent to the members
	Number of participating private sector companies and corporations engaged in Climate-Smart Cocoa	9	9 (0 additional)	11 (LA) + 13 (West-Africa) = unique total 23	Dominican Republic: 3; El Salvador: 2; Honduras: 3; Nicaragua: 4; Côte d'Ivoire: 11; Ghana: 10
	Existence of Cocoa–Climate Landscape Report detailing the impact of climate change on the cocoa sector and current landscape of private sector activities and investments in CSA	0	0	1	WCF is delivering the report in October 2017
	Existence of cocoa	0	1	1	Report has been delivered by

¹ Barry Callebaut; Blommer Chocolate Company; Cargill; CEMOI; ECOM; Ferrero; The Hershey Company; Mars, Inc.; Mondelez International; Nestlé; Olam and Touton.

	agroforestry market system recommendations and work plan				ACDI/VOCA, has been reviewed by WCF and is currently being finalized
	Existence of multi-stakeholder workgroup, engaged to develop a shared cocoa/agroforestry strategy	0	4 countries	5 countries	Workgroups have been set up in Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ghana, Honduras, and Nicaragua. The TWG meetings in the Dominican Republic will commence in November 2017.
	Existence of CSA investment plan, including analysis of opportunities in CSA pilots and innovations	0	0	0	Too early, development will start in year 2
Climate-Smart Cocoa IR 2: Lessons learned from successful pilots used to guide private sector investment in targeted CSA activities to improve farmer adaptive ability.	Number of CSA pilots implemented and evaluated with learnings shared with the strategy workgroup	0	0	0	Too early, none of the pilots have been fully implemented yet
Climate-Smart Cocoa Outputs—IR2 7	Number of CSA pilot projects started through actors coordinating with Climate-Smart Cocoa program	0	3	5	CSA training pilot; Agroforestry market analysis pilot in Liberia; Drought and heat tolerant planting materials research scoping pilot in Latin America and Intensive Soil Fertility management for cocoa productivity in Nicaragua Tree tenure registration pilot in Ghana.
	Number of CSA pilot projects that have been evaluated and marked for future recommendations	0	0	0	Too early for evaluation of pilots
	Existence of learning agenda for CSA pilot projects that identifies key learning questions	0	1	1	The CSC inception report is delivered in October 2017 and outlines an initial/potential further learning agenda.
	Number of actor-linkages and information sharing agreements established	0	4	5	WCF signed an letter of intent with Ghana Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) Secretariat. After signature of CFI Frameworks for Action in November, further MoUs with key partners will be pursued in West-Africa. In Central America MoUs were signed with Lutheran World Relief (LWR), Vredescilanden en Mesoamérica (VECOMA), Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and ECOM. Several other MoUs are under development.

4. Program Summary Objective 1: Implement a shared cocoa/agroforestry strategy for addressing climate change threats to farmer livelihoods in cocoa-growing regions

During this reporting period, WCF engaged the private sector, USAID, and other key stakeholders in a strategic dialogue on climate change and cocoa. This process aims to produce an initial climate-smart cocoa strategy with an emphasis on private sector actions. The final strategy will be developed based on the CSC Inception Report, which will be revisited and revised as the understanding of climate change issues and possible strategic pathways for engagement and investment evolves.

The CSC Program will achieve this objective through the following activities:

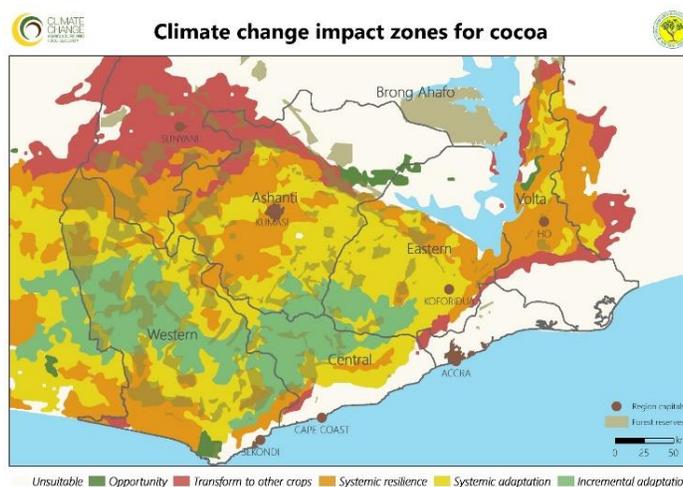
1. Report on the Cocoa-Climate Landscape: Build knowledge on the impact of climate change on the cocoa sector and the current landscape of private sector investments in CSA.
2. Cocoa Agroforestry Market System Assessment: Assess cocoa agroforestry market system to identify end-markets and market incentives for cocoa agroforestry products and key capacity building needs.
3. Governance/Structure for CSA Dialogue: Support/establish multi-stakeholder CSA platform/work group to begin strategic dialogue.
4. CSA Framework & Investment Plan: Identify short-, medium-, and long-term investment actions for addressing climate change in the cocoa sector that include investment opportunities in CSA pilots and innovations.

1. Report on the Cocoa-Climate Landscape

The CSC Program completed the first edition of CSC Inception Report (see attached), with important contributions from key knowledge partners including the Learning Community, ACDI/VOCA, Rainforest Alliance, and Bioversity International. Some of these partner contributions have only recently become available, due to the availability of staff time and data required to carry out the analysis. The Inception Report covers the climate impact predictions for cocoa and the section, the Cocoa-Climate Landscape, and the three core pilot initiatives: 1) CSA training materials, 2) agroforestry, including the market assessment, and 3) heat and drought tolerant planting materials. The report also tackles a broad selection of key CSC themes that have not (yet) been addressed by pilots. This serves as a starting point for further discussions on additional pilots, particularly at the country level and with the companies through a series of meetings and events. WCF is delivering the inception report to USAID together with this annual report.

Cocoa-Climate Landscape Report: Impact of climate change on the cocoa sector

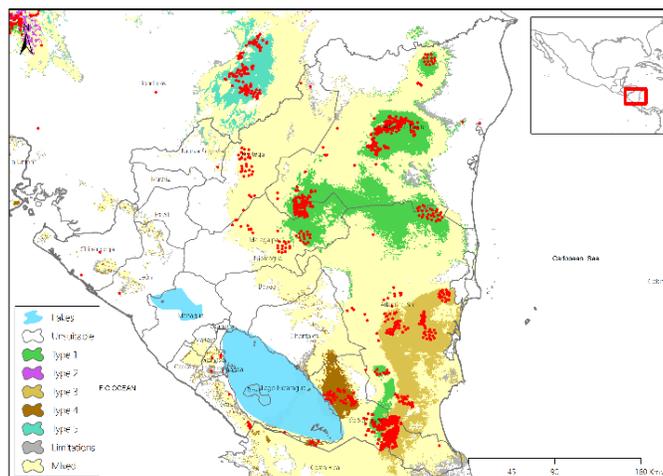
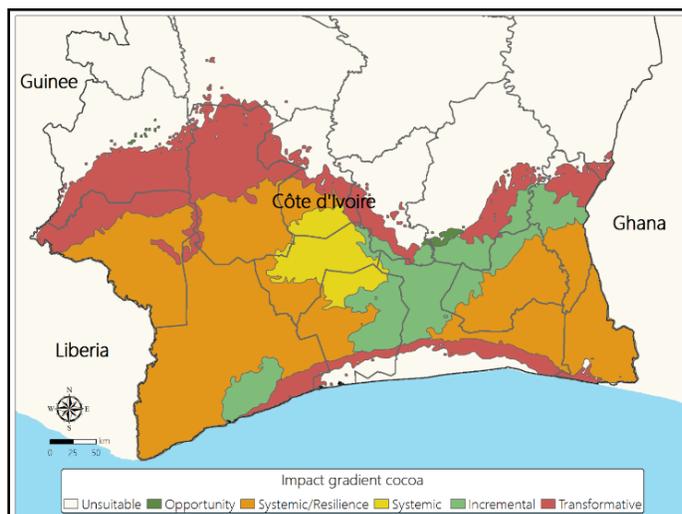
A considerable section of the CSC inception report focuses on building knowledge on the impact of climate change on the cocoa sector, based on several studies by the Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical/International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) of the CGIAR. Studies on the long-term impact of climate change on cocoa production have focused on West Africa cocoa countries because of the importance of the region to the sector. Less research exists on Latin America and Southeast Asia.



Work on West Africa has increasingly moved from assessing the degree of climate impact toward providing guidance on how to implement adaptation strategies. Figure 1 shows the gradient of impacts for Ghana as developed by CIAT and the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (CRIG) in 2016. The map gradients show the basic types of necessary adaptation strategies in Ghana: expansion, incremental changes, systemic changes, increased resilience, or transformational change.

During this reporting period, WCF worked with members to provide data to complete a similar exercise for Côte d'Ivoire. WCF has continued to discuss the implications of these predictions with members and national partners, to help drive the emerging national dialogues on CSC.

During this period, WCF supported CIAT to develop climate change impacts predictions on cocoa in Mesoamerica using a big data approach. WCF helped to collect 6,500 geo-references of locations of cocoa farms from CSC collaborating partners including Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in El Salvador; Lutheran World Relief (LWR) in Nicaragua; and Fundación Hondureña de Investigación Agrícola (FHIA) and Asociación de Productores de Cacao de Honduras (APROCACHO) in Honduras and Rizek S.A in Dominican Republic. Using these and additional data sets from Guatemala, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Panama, CIAT developed a map of the cocoa growing regions of Mesoamerica and a preliminary analysis of the current climate and cocoa aptitude of these areas. These preliminary results were shared with key actors of the cocoa sectors of Central America participating in a “Learning Journey” organized by VECOMA, SFL, and WCF. A complete report will be available at the end of 2017.



Cocoa-Climate Landscape Report: Current landscape of private sector investments in CSA

WCF has been partnering with the Feed the Future CSA Learning Community to scope the landscape of private sector commitments/investments for CSA in cocoa and complementary forest products. In our assessment, we consider that different companies essentially play three different roles, depending on their activities in the global and national value chains, though these may overlap.

1. *Direct Service Providers* work the most closely with farmers, providing integrated in-depth services on-the-ground.
2. *Collaborators* have a presence on the ground through implementing organizations to provide holistic services to farmers.
3. *Catalysts* rarely implement programs on the ground. These companies are looking at the bigger picture, even outside of their own value chain.

Other key take-aways are: 1) focus on better private-private collaboration; 2) remember that profitability comes first, also for farmers; 3) research needs to develop tangible and practical solutions; 4) companies need easily accessible and digestible information; and 5) long-term investments need to be made.

West Africa

Overall, companies demonstrate a strong willingness to look at the issue of climate change in West Africa and to integrate of climate-smart practices. Some companies have expressed questions on the best engagement strategy, whereas others question the certainty of the models. Moreover, companies do not have equal interest in all West African countries, generally showing a preference for initial investments either in Côte d'Ivoire or in Ghana.

Both Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana are undergoing policy and institutional reform processes regarding the nexus of cocoa, forests, and climate change. Though, some companies struggle to see the opportunities for engagement and investment with these processes. The CSC Program has made it a priority to provide more clarity by engaging on the policy discussions, strategy development process and to be a driving force of the TWGs.

Latin America

Central America has a very small share in the world market of cocoa (approximately 0.6%) and yet is a reliable source for high quality, fine flavor beans for the specialty market. The growth of the cocoa market at the regional level during 2011-2016 has been around 29%. In 2016, the Central American Agricultural Council, a regional coordination platform of the Ministries of Agriculture from all Central American countries, prioritized the cocoa value chain for analysis of climate change adaptation needs and actions.

Currently Honduras produces around 1500 MT of fine aroma cocoa. It is expected that from 2017 onwards, there will be a major boost of production and quality in the cocoa sector because of a number of cocoa development projects. Private sector actors like Chocolats Halba, Chocolate del Caribe, FHIA and APROCACAO, in alliance with the public sector and development cooperation, are actively engaging and investing to develop a cocoa value chain resilient to climate change with a clear focus organized smallholders.

El Salvador has very small area of cocoa agroforestry systems in production. USAID financed Cocoa alliance program is in the process of establishing 6500 ha of new Cocoa agroforestry systems, with productive clones under irrigation. Led by CRS, partners from private sector (ES-cacao, ACPACI, Chocolate Melher, Guittard Chocolate), public sector and development cooperation are working in alliance to develop cocoa value chain of El Salvador resilient to climate change

Nicaragua produces around 7,000 MT of cocoa and 100% of the production comes from smallholders who are supported by several public-private projects with funding from the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (COSUDE), World Bank, International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), Banco Centroamericano de Integración Económica (BCIE), USDA, and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Private sector actors like ECOM, Ritter Sport, and Ingemann are engaging and investing to develop cocoa value chains resilient to climate change. Private sector actors (Cacao Oro, Ritter Sport, Bean & Co, and others) are also investing to develop new large-scale cocoa plantations with high productivity and climate change adaptation.

The Dominican Republic produces around 80,000 MT of cocoa, being largest producer of organic cocoa in the world. Private sector actors (Rizek S.A, Roig S.A and CONACADO group), in alliance with public sector, actively engage and invest in the cocoa value chain which has felt noticeable negative impact of climate variability during past years. In 2016, a national cocoa plan was developed to address the themes of productivity, quality, and climate resilience.

Knowledge development on deforestation

With funding from the World Bank, the international advisory company Climate Focus delivered the detailed [report](#) "Eliminating Deforestation from the Cocoa Supply Chain" in February 2017. The CSC Program uses this report to help guide its own strategy development and the development of the CFI Frameworks for Action. In the report, the deforestation-related commitments from cocoa companies are analyzed across the value chain by looking at commitment types, implementation, and the enabling environment. Finally, a vision for zero-deforestation cocoa with key principles and strategies is described to inform industry, governments, and development partners.

2. Cocoa Agroforestry Market System Assessment

During this reporting period, ACDI/VOCA under the 18-month pilot in Liberia, completed the initial cocoa agroforestry market system assessment/VCA in Liberia. The full report is attached and key lessons have been integrated into the CSC inception report. ACDI/VOCA selected oil palm, plantain and timber as the three CSC non-cocoa target crops. Primary research on these three commodities and cocoa followed has resulted in the identification of potential interventions across each value chain. The agroforestry pilot takes a systems and landscape approach and seeks to promote climate smart practices to move farmers away from extending into the forest. The VCA and stakeholder consultations has led to a summary of key market opportunities, related constraints, and potential interventions. The final report is being submitted to USAID, and will be shared with CSC companies and will be shared with CSC members ahead of the next strategy meeting on November 30, 2017 . Both in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana initial steps towards company-specific agroforestry pilots have also been undertaken, as further discussed later in the report under pilots.

3. Governance/Structure for CSA Dialogue

Exchanges with the companies at the national level are ongoing. At the global level partners were invited to join a webinar on the 13th of July 2017 to review and confirm CSC goals, the progress to date, and the overall process for strategy development and for piloting CSC innovations. The webinar further aimed to solicit issues, concerns, lessons learned, and good practices from companies that should be incorporated in program activities. It closed by reviewing next steps, timeline, and further plans to engage companies.

During the last reporting period, CF focused on integrating CSC into national strategic dialogues on climate change by energizing and establishing the CSC thematic/strategic working groups. Progress was made in five WCF target countries (Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ghana, Honduras, and Nicaragua).

West-Africa

On November 1, 2016 WCF facilitated a CSC kickoff meeting in Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire. The purpose of the meeting was to:

1. Align on the program's goals and objectives;
2. Identify opportunities for collaboration with other climate change programs in West Africa; and
3. Determine next steps to move the program forward.

The CSC Program did see strong representation from Ivorian counterparts, company partners, NGOs, and USAID. Due to scheduling conflicts, some government company leads in Ghana were not about to attend the meeting. They have subsequently been informed and have provided strategic input during bilateral and country-level 'huddle' meetings during Q1 of 2017.

The kickoff meeting highlighted the necessity of aligning with the emerging TWG on Environment and Climate Change (Groupe Thématique sur l'Environnement et le Changement Climatique) that operates under the existing Public-Private Partnership Platform (PPPP) being led by Le Conseil du Café-Cacao (CCC). WCF became one of the two secretaries to the platform. The same TWG also serves as the discussion platform for the CFI. For both initiatives, WCF collaborates with strategic partner IDH. After the signature of the CFI's Framework for Action, the TWG membership including CCC has agreed to focus on developing a CSC strategy during a national event to be organized by WCF.

In Ghana, through follow-up conversations with partners and by carefully monitoring the changes after the 2016 electoral period, WCF determined that the CSC strategy discussions in Ghana need to be aligned with the existing strategic Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) between the Ghana Cocoa Board (Cocobod), Forestry Commission, and the Ghana REDD+ Secretariat, with leadership provided by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources. This connects to the launch of the Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Program (GCFRP) developed under the highly ambitious and internationally commended Emissions Reduction Program (ERP) that was approved in July. WCF was an official

supporter. WCF has set up a TWG, in partnership with a broad set of private and public-sector actors, civil society members, traditional authorities, and community representatives. When possible, CSC pilots will link to the GCFRP's target landscapes.

The table below outlines the governance structure and key participants in each country. In both countries, the nine CSC company members (bolded below) participate in the meetings (Lindt through ECOM):

	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Purpose
National coordination	CCC, SODEFOR, with IDH and WCF as secretaries	Cocobod, Forestry Commission, Ghana REDD+ (Joint Coordination Committee), Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, WCF and IDH until the Ghana Cocoa Platform is reconstituted.	Ensures that meetings are organized and the program progresses through frequent calls
Strategic TWG on CSC	Existing TWG, presided over by SEP-REDD, performing tasks for the PPPP of the CCC, and for the CSC Program and CFI. Members of the 'Groupe Thématique convened by CCC: ANADER, Barry Callebaut, Blommer, Cargill, CCC, Cémoi, FairTrade USA, Ferrero, GIZ, ICRAF, IDH, Impactum, Mars, Mondelez, Nestlé, OIPR, Olam, SEP-REDD+, SODEFOR, TFT, Touton, Tranchivoire, UNDP, UTZ, WCF, World Chimpanzee Foundation, Zamacom/ECOM	Recently convened TWG at the level of Ghana REDD+, building on a new strategic collaboration between Cocobod and Forestry Commission, which performs tasks for the GCFRP under the ERP, for the Ghana Cocoa Platform, and for the CSC Program and CFI. Members of the TWG convened by Cocobod/FC: AgroECOM SMS (also for Lindt), Barry Callebaut, Cargill, Cocobod, FC, Hersheys, IDH, IUCN, Mars, MinAgri, MLNR, Mondelez, Nestlé, Olam, Palladium/P4F, Proforest, Rainforest Alliance, Touton, UNDP, WCF, World Bank/FIP.	Meets on bi-monthly basis to address specific agenda items. May look at strategy building, research questions, assessment of pilots, policy recommendations
Pilots	In or close to protected areas within companies' operations.	Within existing ERP Hotspot Intervention Areas or more general 'Community Resource Management Areas' (CREMA), led by private sector company within a landscape approach.	Learning on engagement and investment strategies that need further testing and validation will be achieved within specific pilot sites. Leadership by or jointly with CSC members

Latin America

To roll out the CSC program, key actors of the cocoa sectors of the four target countries have been convened to form Climate Smart Cocoa Strategic Working Groups. Through this engagement, we have been able to build collaboration with 12 company partners listed in bold in the table below (Please see Appendix A for list of acronyms):

	El Salvador	Honduras	Nicaragua	Dominican Republic (DR)	Purpose
National coordination	National Cocoa roundtable	National Cocoa Value Chain Committee	Multi-stakeholder cocoa platform	National Cocoa Commission	National platforms for cocoa sector dialogue and liaison with the public sector
Strategic TWG on CSC	Convened by CRS. Members of the group are CLUSA, LWR, CARITAS, ACPACI, CENTA, MAG, UES, Chocolate Melher, ES-Cacao and VECOMA.	Convened by LWR. Members of the group are FHIA, APROCACAO, FUNDER, CURLA, FUNDER, Chocolate del Caribe, Chocolats Halba and VECOMA.	Convened by ECOM. Members are INTA, INETER, MAG, MEFCCA, COSUDE, CIAT, CATIE, Ritter Sport, Ingemann, Cacao Oro, UNA, CANICACAO, CRS, LWR, ONUDI,	Convened by Rizek Cacao S.A. Members are CONACADO Group, Roig Agrocaao S.A, Valrhona, IDIAF, MAG, COOPROAGRO, FUPAROCA, APROCACI, UNDP and	National spaces for climate smart cocoa dialogue, sector wide CSC strategy development, identification and implementation of CSC pilots.

			Solidaridad International and VECOMA.	COOPCANOR	
Pilots	Evaluation of Cocoa agroforestry systems for fine aroma cocoa. Evaluation of native cocoa germplasms for heat and drought tolerance.	Evaluation of multi-clones under irrigation. Evaluation of Current level of resilience of small-holders and cooperatives	Evaluation of cocoa-timber agroforestry systems. Information based soil fertility management to improve productivity. Use and effectiveness of early warning systems for improved decision-making.	Evaluation of Current level of resilience of small-holders and cooperatives	Platform for collective learning and scaling CSC practices based on lessons and evidence generated by CSC pilots.

4. CSC Framework & Investment Plan

As a first step in the development for the CSA Framework & Investment, plan, WCF produced the CSC Inception Report. It identifies short-, medium-, and long-term pilot options for potential investment pathways for addressing climate change in the cocoa sector. WCF is also convening key stakeholders in each country and the region to further develop the CSC Program’s strategy objectives, design and roll out addition CSC pilots. The next step, emerging from these company dialogues and from the initial pilot activities, will be to produce an investment plan for the broader implementation and scaling of CSC pilot activities.

West Africa

In West Africa, strategy development will follow a similar path in both Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana using the TWGs as the dialogue platforms to ‘translate’ the globally-focused CSC inception report into national CSA strategies. WCF will work with a broad stakeholder group to single out themes at the national level, as well as demonstrate the business case and entry points for increased engagement and investment by the private sector. This will increasingly involve designing pilot activities and investment models. This work will align with the CFI Frameworks for Action, particularly with the development of company-specific action plans to act on the CFI commitments. WCF is also participating in the Ghana Cocobod’s CSC Production Standard TWG along with the Forestry Commission, Rainforest Alliance and CSC member Touton

Latin America

From August to September 2017, WCF engaged with members of CSC strategic working groups of El Salvador (eight organizations) and Nicaragua (ten organizations) via bi-lateral and collective working sessions to initiate the process of developing climate smart cocoa strategies. Using the results from climate exposure mapping and contents of the Inception Report, partners from these countries have analyzed their roles and generated concrete ideas and inputs to build climate smart cocoa strategies both at the sectorial and the organizational level. In the coming months, similar exercises will be carried out in the Dominican Republic and Honduras.

5. Program Summary Objective 2: Use lessons learned from successful pilots to guide private sector investment in targeted CSA activities to improve resilience for farmers, other supply chain partners and ecosystems.

Five key activities will contribute to the achievement of this objective:

1. Identification and Design of CSA Pilots
2. Implementation of Initial and Additional Pilots
3. Identification of Key Learning Questions
4. Compile Lessons Learned
5. Refine and Promote Successful Pilots

1. Identification and Design of Pilots

In addition to the three initial pilots described below, WCF is identifying other potential CSC pilots. Some pilots will originate out of the strategy development process, while others are arising from emerging partnerships with individual companies or groups of partners. The CFI process will likely also identify additional potential pilots, especially since this may help push new policy developments.

CSC Training Curriculum

WCF is building upon other existing efforts to identify CSA practices per climatic impact zone. Rainforest Alliance, in partnership with the SFL/CGAIR's CCAFS CSC project in Ghana, initiated some of the work towards the development of a curriculum but ended the efforts due to lack of funds in the CCAFS program. WCF has been able to leverage that existing body of knowledge, and now develops a set of publicly available CSC training modules that supplement Cocobod's harmonized training curriculum jointly with CCAFS. WCF has opened negotiations with UTZ in Côte d'Ivoire to proceed in a similar fashion in 2018. In both cases, WCF is taking care of curriculum development, while RA and UTZ are developing the recommendations based on CGIAR's research, and on participatory validation and local adaptation exercises. The CSC Program will also examine how the tools may be leveraged in the CSC Program's Latin American activities.

Cocoa agroforestry market systems linkages

This pilot provides farmers with sustained, market-based investments in cocoa agroforestry production systems. With a focus on Liberia, the CSC Program will accomplish this in part by connecting cocoa agroforestry producer groups to markets for non-cocoa crops that they are not marketing as successfully as they could, and connecting them to markets that will offer price premiums for cocoa.

On top of the market analysis in Liberia, ACDI/VOCA visited company partners and key institutions in Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana in August and September to provide recommendations to implement agroforestry market linkages activities within their own programs. The company reports are currently being finalized and follow-up consultations with the companies are being scheduled for Q4, 2017.

Heat and Drought Tolerant Planting Material

In July 2016, WCF received an 18-month, USDA-FAS complementary grant entitled "Strengthening the Cocoa Value Chain." Through a portion of this grant (approximately \$50,000), and in partnership with Bioversity International, WCF is facilitating the development of a plan to evaluate the current state of research on drought and heat tolerant planting material and to develop a methodology for evaluating material as part of the CSC Program and other projects, including ACI II.

The objectives of this work include: 1) understanding current knowledge on the physiological response of cocoa and the genetic diversity to drought and heat; 2) mapping the institutional landscape on cocoa drought and heat tolerance research; and 3) developing a pragmatic framework for a research program and related priorities for the next 3-5 years.

The CSC Program team also works closely with the ACI II team because the development of the workplans and methodologies of each program will inform the implementation of the screening trials in a reciprocal manner. Given the modest financial resources of the CSC Program, it will allow WCF to expand the heat and drought tolerance work in both Latin America and West Africa and receive their contributions to the global action plan for drought tolerance breeding.

WCF has worked with partners in Nicaragua (INTA, ECOM, and Ritter Sport), El Salvador (CENTA) and Honduras (FHIA) to document their cocoa breeding and evaluation activities with emphasis on participatory evaluation with cocoa growers. These inputs will help Bioversity International and WCF to define the action plan in Central America. The final report and framework for research will be completed by January 2018. Bioversity International is developing recommendations in order to establish field trials in early 2018.

Other Pilot Opportunities (not funded)

In addition to the initial three pilots, WCF has identified other potential pilots, based on engagement and investment pathways discussed in the CSC inception report. Several are currently seriously considered or already underway:

West Africa

In Ghana, the CSC Program has started collaboration with Hershey, Ecom, and the USAID Tenure and Global Climate Change (IGCC) Program. This program aims to better understand and test the components of a model for public-private collaboration to help smallholder cocoa farmers in Ghana increase tenure security (land and trees), replant old cocoa farms, and reduce deforestation and degradation. WCF is joining the pilot to translate the learnings into the CSC strategy development process, with the concrete objective to jointly organize a learning event on the topic by the beginning of 2018.

In collaboration with SFL and the local NGO Agro-Eco, WCF is engaged in another proof of concept pilot with 150 farmers. Funded by the Feed the Future CSA Learning Community Project, this pilot aims to (1) identify and build practical ways for farmers to register their planted trees; and (2) to catalyze more discussion/action on the process of reforestation/tree planting. Part of the implementation includes the use of the latest smart phone and digital mapping technology and the provision of farm documentation to individual farmers. This highly innovative pilot is nearing completion. Key deliverables are a user manual, and a short analytic cost-benefit report on the different mapping approaches.

Also in Ghana, WCF is coordinating the implementation and knowledge sharing involving private sector of all the CSA/CSC field pilots being implemented by the CGIAR's CCAFS consortium, the CSA Learning Community led by SFL, and the WCF CSC Program. The effort is to ensure synergies, prevent duplication and over-solicitation of member companies.

In Côte d'Ivoire, at the explicit request of the national institutions and the TWG members, additional CSC piloting and CSC strategy development will be put on the agenda only after the COP23 in Bonn. Discussions with individual companies on additional pilots continue.

Latin America

WCF and Ritter Sport have initiated discussions to develop pilot action for increasing cocoa productivity via intensive crop, shade, and fertility management with 300 smallholders belonging to 10 cooperatives of Nicaragua. Students from National Autonomous University of Nicaragua will carry out a study on cocoa smallholders' resilience and adaptation to climate change.

2. Implementation of Pilots

CSC Training Curriculum

WCF began negotiations with RA and UTZ to develop the CSC training curriculum that CSC members will get the opportunity to test and validate in the next reporting period with CSC partners in Ghana, and later also in Côte d'Ivoire.

For Ghana, several companies have shown interest. Currently, a consultant is working with the RA and WCF team to develop a training curriculum for each climatic hazard. Eight training topics will be finalized for Cocobod/CRIG review. The CSC training topics are accompanied by handouts for farmers and guidelines for the trainer. In Côte d'Ivoire, negotiations are ongoing with UTZ on how they will perform the necessary local validation work, including the screening for local adaptation practices, needed before the adaptation and translation of the material to French and to the Ivorian context. Work is expected to begin in 2018.

Cocoa agroforestry market systems linkages

As a follow-up to the training of trainers event held in June 2017 (An Introduction to Climate Smart Cocoa Agroforestry – Climate Change Impacts and Effects), cascade trainings have been occurring within the cooperative

communities. Recently, two cascade training events were held with the GEBFACO cooperative in Karnplay, with 83 attendees (48 of whom were female; or 57%). This brings the total number of beneficiaries trained to 120 (58 of whom were female; or 48%). Market facilitations are currently being developed drawing on the results of the market analysis performed earlier in the project, which identified plantain, oil palm and timber as opportunities to leverage markets to improve economic incentives for cocoa agroforestry.

Marketing consultations to outline market development approaches and identify opportunities for companies to incorporate market-oriented agroforestry approaches, were completed last quarter in Ghana (May 29 – June 4) and Côte d'Ivoire (June 10-16). An upcoming report on Côte d'Ivoire provides a brief scan of representative partner projects, some potential end market opportunities relevant to those projects, and the enabling environment supporting cocoa agroforestry market linkages in target project area. Visited partners included Barry Callebaut, Cemoi, ECOM, Touton, Tranchivoire, and ICRAF.

In Ghana, ACIDI/VOCA identified opportunities to apply its market-oriented agroforestry approach in field projects. Hershey, IITA, Lindt, Nestlé, SNV, Touton, and WCF were visited. The final reports will be completed in October followed by consultations with companies on their findings and recommendations.

Heat and Drought Tolerant Planting Material

In 2016, WCF received a grant from USDA to support the heat and drought tolerance work as part of the CSC Program. In October, 2016, Bioversity, through a sub-agreement with WCF, recruited a post-doctoral Research Fellow to carry out an in-depth literature review on drought and heat tolerance in cacao and the role of genetic diversity to get a better understanding of: 1) what is known about cacao climatic resilience; 2) what are the research gaps; and 3) key research questions for subsequent trials. Information from on-going and unpublished work was included. A vast network of public and private sector partners, including research institutes, producer organizations, and industry representatives was engaged to collect additional information on unpublished and on-going research, including the African and Latin America Cocoa Breeders Working Groups (ACBWG, LACBWG). This work will be completed in January 2018.

In June 6-8, 2017, Bioversity hosted an expert consultation in collaboration with the University of Reading research team and WCF, to discuss and agree on the development of the research on drought and heat tolerance focusing on the multisite evaluation trials, in support of multiple programs. This is in collaboration with the Collaborative Framework for Cacao Evaluation' (CFCE) and a new 5-year research program at the University of Reading, on cacao genetic diversity and climate change, focusing on studying the diversity maintained at the International Cocoa Quarantine Centre, Reading (ICQCR). This helped to inform recommendations for future activities on heat and drought tolerance through the CSC Program and ACI II.

3. Identification of Key Questions

WCF develops learning questions for each new pilot beginning in the design phase. Next, WCF will design relevant M&E systems to enable the program team to manage for results, improve program performance, and provide quality data to meet the M&E needs of USAID, and to effectively monitor and evaluate the pilot activities. This data collection aims to leverage learnings from a successful CSC pilot, but also on dimensions like gender, environmental impacts, and potential future scaling efforts. Each pilot agreement will clearly feature these elements, and significant agreements will be shared with USAID.

4. Lessons Learned

A key lesson learned has been the need to be flexible in the design and implementation of the strategic platforms. Through our conversations with partners it is apparent that the cocoa sector, particularly in West Africa, is inundated with programs, platforms, working groups, and meetings. This creates both 'meeting fatigue' and confusion amongst stakeholders. It can limit their participation and motivation to participate in any new initiative. This has been particularly apparent in the implementation of CFI and WCF has worked to ensure alignment in the development of the CFI Frameworks for Action and the CSC Program strategy development. In Central America, on the contrary,

some partners have never even met before. The CSC Program connected to a latent demand for increased coordination. Therefore, the team spent the first months surveying the context-specific landscapes and discussing with key partners in both regions to determine the optimal entry points and approaches for the CSC strategy discussions. This approach has created strong support and appreciation for the program among national partners.

Following the development of the M&E methodologies for each pilot, WCF will collect relevant data from the pilot activities. WCF will work with the CSC partners and TWGs, as appropriate, to analyze the pilots for key lessons learned and to determine possible scalability. Lessons will be shared with USAID and participating WCF member companies, as well as the strategic platforms in each of the countries. With the assistance of the Learning Community, the CSC Program will exchange lessons learned with the Hans Neumann Foundation. Once additional learning pilots are concluded (e.g. on tree and land tenure), a knowledge event will be organized to inform the CSC members of lessons learned and to discuss the opportunities for scaling.

5. Promotion

The CSC Program team is designing the M&E and communication strategy in anticipation of sharing the successes and challenges in pilot development. The intent is to catalyze private sector adoption of successful innovations.

6. Operations

Following the launch of the CSC Program, company and government partners highlighted deforestation as a growing and significant concern to cocoa sustainability. Moreover, strategically in both Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, the CSC Program aligns its work and the establishment of strategic platforms with partners and programs tackling deforestation. While the CSC Program does believe that addressing deforestation is inherent in CSA, the proposal could have articulated the linkage more strongly. During this reporting period, WCF requested adjustments be made to the proposal narrative to include language specifically on deforestation, and USAID responded favorably. Today addressing deforestation is more explicit in the program design, which supports our conversation with some potential donors.

7. Communications and Outreach

On December 14, the CSC Program Director organized a panel discussion on innovations in climate-smart cocoa as part of the Agri-Chains and Sustainable Development annual conference (260 participants) hosted by CIRAD. The panel discussion (50 participants) provided concrete examples of private sector CSA innovations and presented how leveraging multi-stakeholder platforms can foster effective collaboration. Other participants on the panel included CIAT, IDH, the International Institute for Environment and Development, Mars, Inc., the Moringa Fund, and Valrhona.

On March 30, 2017, WCF facilitated a members-only webinar on CSC and deforestation featuring three companies (Chocolats Halba, Touton, and Valrhona), who presented on their CSC initiatives.

On July 13, 2017, WCF facilitated a webinar to share the draft contents of the inception report with the participating companies and other key partners (USAID, ACIDI/VOCA, Bioversity, CIAT, and SFL). The companies showed a keen interest in CSC curriculum development, research on heat and drought tolerant cocoa germplasm, and diversified cocoa agroforestry systems.

West Africa

The CSC Program began field implementation in October 2016 with the hiring of a West Africa CSC Program Manager and the organization of a kickoff event in Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire in November 2016. It involved key national partners and much of the global sustainability leadership of the CSC member companies. Through numerous meetings, the team has subsequently presented the CSC Program to all relevant cocoa, forest, and climate change institutions in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, higher executives of cocoa institutions, and representatives of all company members for their input and support. Several climate smart initiatives exist in both Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, and the CSC Program Manager for West Africa ensured that stakeholders today broadly recognize the CSC Program as the

convener of the private sector around CSC. In Côte d'Ivoire, the CSC Program forged an alliance with the IDH Sustainable Landscapes Program (ISLA), a leading voice in the discussion of agroforestry as a CSA approach in cocoa. In Ghana, the dialogue originated from CGIAR research programs. In August, WCF was requested to coordinate all CSC learning sites and pilots with the private sector for all three currently ongoing CSC initiatives in Ghana (CCAFS CSA Mainstreaming, Feed the Future CSA Learning Community, and the WCF CSC Program). This role is expected to be affirmed also under upcoming initiatives, such as a BMZ-funded program led by IITA starting in 2018. Companies and key national organizations were informed of this joint move.

During the TWG meetings in Côte d'Ivoire in August 2017, the progress and aims of the CSC Program were once again presented during an update session and the principal idea was approved to organize country-level events to develop a national CSC strategy. However, due to existing workload on the partners and upon their expressed demand, this will only happen soon after the CFI Framework for Action has signed in November. WCF will use the global Inception Report as a basis to come to country-level agreement on targeted CSC technologies and pilots, as well as a joint CSC research agenda. The CSC strategy events will be co-hosted by national institutions and knowledge partners.

Latin America

The Latin America, the CSC Program Manager presented the strategy for rolling out the CSC program to Cocoa Alliance members in El Salvador in November 2016, to National Cocoa Value Chain Committee members in Honduras in February 2017, to members of National Cocoa Value Chain Commission of Nicaragua in February 2017, to the members of national Chambers of Cocoa of Nicaragua in February 2017, and to a wide audience at the National Cocoa Forum in Nicaragua in March 2017, and the Dominican Republic in April 2017. The CSC Program Manager also presented the program and the possible cocoa germplasm evaluation for heat and drought tolerance to WCF Borlaug fellows in Ecuador in March 2017.

WCF, in alliance with VECOMA and SFL, organized a Learning Journey in June 2017 in Honduras with the participation of key actors of the cocoa value chain of Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. The aim was to stimulate a common analysis and develop a shared regional strategy of a sustainable cocoa sector, adapted to climate change. The WCF CSC Program Director also participated and interacted with a wide range of cocoa actors.

WCF, in alliance with VECOMA and Servicio de Gestión del Conocimiento para América Latina (ASOCAM), organized a regional event in September 2017 to analyze the challenges and strategies for fostering climate smart cocoa in Central America. The impact of climate change and climate variability were discussed by more than 30 key members of the cocoa sectors of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. The results of the discussions are essential inputs for the CSC strategy development process.

8. Discussion of any implementation problems encountered

Beginning in January 2017, the slump in cocoa prices has caused both economic and social hardship for the government and the producers in Côte d'Ivoire. This has resulted in sporadic civil unrest, and WCF, in a pre-emptive fashion, limited travel both within the country and internationally to the country out of a concern for safety and welfare of staff. This unfortunately resulted in a slowdown in project activities and in-country consultations with partners and the government. At this point, all travel restrictions have been lifted and activities have returned to normal.

During the past reporting period, the CSC Program team determined that there was not a functioning public-private platform in Ghana to align the CSC strategy discussions and facilitate industry engagement with the government bodies. Therefore, initial work was needed to re-establish the Ghana Cocoa Platform (GCP), which is could serve this purpose. Moreover, during the first quarter of 2017, the elections in Ghana made it difficult to engage with the government institutions between December 2016 and well into 2017 due to the change of leadership in virtually every cocoa and forestry institution and at the department level. This caused a few months' delay in the TWG set up discussions. Though the TWG is now functional, the GCP is yet to be relaunched.

Due to the heightened activity around the design of the framework for action in West-Africa the CSC Program must carefully navigate around the creation of ‘meeting fatigue’. For this reason, most meetings are combined with our other initiatives (ACI II, CocoaAction, CLP, CFI, policy engagement, and donor engagement). This includes joint ‘country huddles’ and coordination meetings, for example, which is sometimes challenging but does help to increase participation.

The issues and possible solutions around climate change and deforestation are interlinked. Therefore, WCF is aligning the development of the CSC Program investment strategies with the Frameworks for Action and following action plans for CFI. The CFI frameworks will be completed in November 2017 and the work to develop the action plans will take place in 2018. Therefore, the initial CSC Program investment strategies will be pushed to the first half of 2018.

As explained earlier, the planting material work to screen for heat and drought tolerance will leverage the work of CFCE and the University of Reading. The consultative meeting took place in June 2017 and therefore pushed forward the implementation of the trials. WCF is now collaborating with Bioversity to develop recommendations for the field trials which will be implemented in the first half of 2018.

9. Summary of expected activities over the next six months

The project year 2 workplan has been approved and cover activities from April 1, 2017 to March 30, 2018. The following is a brief updated summary of key activities outlined in that submission:

1. Program Summary Objective 1: Implement a shared cocoa/agroforestry strategy for addressing climate change threats to farmer livelihoods in cocoa-growing regions:
 - Presentation of Inception Report consolidating information on impact of climate change, risk assessment and CSC landscape to USAID, company members and other potential public and private implementing partners;
 - Climate change impact modelling by CIAT on cocoa for several countries in the Latin-American region;
 - Share VCA report with WCF member companies; and
 - Organize the CSC Program strategy meetings in West Africa (Ghana, Nov. 30, 2017) and Latin America (Nicaragua, w/o Dec 11, 2017)
 - Work with Climate Smart Cocoa Strategic Working groups to develop initial investment plans. In Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana, this is aligned with the development of the CFI Frameworks for Action.
2. Program Summary Objective 2: Use lessons learned from successful pilots to guide private sector investment in targeted CSA activities to improve resilience for farmers, other supply chain partners and ecosystems:
 - Use Inception Report to engage private sector partners on (collective) learning through pilots, and incite their interest in specific themes and solutions;
 - Development of concept notes with companies and implementing partners for additional CSC pilots;
 - Continue to manage initial pilots on agroforestry and planting materials, start a pilot on CSC training materials, and potentially start additional pilots;
 - Learning alliances established and collective learning process initiated (Central America);
 - First set of CSC pilot projects and sites identified;
 - ACDI/VOCA further consultations with companies on agroforestry market linkage development in Cote d’Ivoire and Ghana.
 - Key indicators identified and developed, and effective monitoring and evaluation process set up with actors involved in CSC pilot sites;
 - Plan for multi-site cocoa germplasm evaluation for heat and drought tolerance in Central America and Caribbean developed and reviewed; and
 - Initial version of Climate Smart Cocoa training modules available, in collaboration with RA (Ghana) and UTZ (Côte d’Ivoire).

Annex A. Acronyms Latin America

Country	Acronym	Organizations
El Salvador	CLUSA	CLUSA El Salvador
	LWR	Lutheran World Relief
	CARTAS	CARTAS El Salvador
	ACPACI	Asociación Cooperativa de Producción Agropecuaria Cacao “LOS IZALCOS”
	CENTA	National Center for agricultural and forest technologies
	MAG	Ministry of Agriculture
	UES	University of El Salvador
	Chocolate Melher	Chocolate Melher
	ES-Cacao	Cooperative Society of Cocoa Growers ES-Cacao
	VECOMA	Vredeseilanden en Mesoamérica
Honduras	CRS	Catholic Relief Services
	FHIA	Honduran Foundation for Agricultural Research
	APROCACAHO	Association of Cocoa Producers of Honduras
	FUNDER	Foundation for rural business development
	CURLA	University Center for the Atlantic region
	Chocolate de Caribe	Chocolate de Caribe
	Chocolats Halba	Chocolats Halba Honduras
	VECOMA	Vredeseilanden en Mesoamérica
Nicaragua	LWR	Lutheran World Relief
	INTA	National Institute of Agricultural Technology
	INETER	National Institute Territorial studies
	MAG	Ministry of Agriculture
	MEFCCA	Ministry of Family Economy and Associative Cooperation
	COSUDE	Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation
	CIAT	Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical/International Center for Tropical Agriculture
	CATIE	Tropical Agronomic Center for Education and research
	Ritter Sport	Ritter Sport
	Ingemann	Ingemann
	UNA	National Agricultural University
	CANICACAO	National Chamber of Cocoa producers
	CRS	Catholic Relief services
	LWR	Lutheran World Relief
	ONUDI	United Nations Industrial Development
Solidaridad	Solidaridad International	
Dominican Republic	VECOMA	Vredeseilanden en Mesoamérica
	ECOM	ECOM Agrottrade
	CONACADO	CONACADO Group
	Roig S.A	Roig Agro cacao S.A
	Valrhona	Valrhona
	IDIAF	National research Institute for Agriculture and Forestry
	MAG	Ministry of Agriculture
	COOPROAGRO	Cooperative of Cocoa Growers
	FUPAROCA	Foundation for regeneration of Organic Cocoa
	APROCACI	National Cocoa Producers Organization of DR
	UNDP	United Nations Development Program
	COOPCANOR	Cooperative of Cocoa Growers of the North of DR
	Rizek	Rizek Cacao S.A.