



Feed the Future Partnership for Climate Smart Cocoa Semi-annual Report

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I. Executive Summary

The Feed the Future Partnership for Climate Smart Cocoa (CSC) is a four-year program led by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) in consortium with ACDI/VOCA (for the first two years) and nine cocoa and chocolate companies. The Program, now moving into the fourth year of implementation, focuses on strategy development and piloting climate smart agriculture (CSA) innovations, as well as joint learning. Since the launch in May 2016, the program continues to progress in both the Central American and Caribbean and West African regions, particularly in alignment with the Cocoa & Forest Initiative. The Program has provided clarity on the practical value of the current climate change impact predictions and is increasingly providing well-developed guidance and learning on recommended CSA practices to be adopted and scaled by the private sector. WCF has developed key pilots and learnings are continuously shared with stakeholders. The program will come to a close in May 2020.

During this reporting period, WCF continued to solidify key governance systems and partnerships in each country, focusing on strategy development and pilot implementation. WCF advanced CSC components, including the strategy development, through a series of technical working group (TWG) meetings in each country. WCF has been using the CSC ‘Inception Report’, completed in year two, as the foundation for strategic dialogue in each country. WCF has also advanced numerous pilot activities, such as screening for heat and drought planting material, and the finalization of a CSC training curriculum.

WCF is ensuring alignment between the CSC Program strategies and the Cocoa & Forest Initiative (CFI) - a joint commitment between industry and producing governments to end deforestation and forest degradation in the cocoa sector. Through CFI, companies are adopting and scaling CSC actions in which they are planning to invest over the next four years including training farmers in CSC, promoting agroforestry, and supporting farmers with land and tree tenure. The CSC Program current reporting period highlights the increased attention to CSC strategies in West Africa and Latin America and how they align with CFI strategies, particularly for West Africa. This report also features the CSC pilot activities that are currently being implemented and finalized, the implementation of M&E systems and learning processes to ensure the development of an CSC investment plan and the documentation of best practices and learnings from the Program.

II. Background

The Feed the Future Partnership for CSC is a four-year Program led by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) in consortium with ACDI/VOCA for the first two years. This Program brings together the U.S. Agency for International Development (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 Touton. These nine CSC companies are also part of the 34 CFI signatories committed to address the challenges of climate change and deforestation in cocoa-producing landscapes.

The CSC Program focuses on two regions – 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 CSA in West Africa and Latin America. This requires

demonstrating to industry the predicted impacts of climate change on the cocoa supply chain. It also requires performing objective analyses of the trade-offs between different CSA practices, developing a sector-wide strategy, and identifying 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 the listed WCF member companies. The CSC Program adopts a “value chain approach” by supporting CSC 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 CSC 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; and
- **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.

WCF is leading the [Cocoa & Forest Initiative](#) with leading cocoa and chocolate companies to work together with producing government and others to end deforestation and forest degradation in the cocoa sector, beginning in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana. Currently thirty-four companies have signed the CFI Frameworks for Action ([Côte d’Ivoire](#) and [Ghana](#)) and have published action plans ([Côte d’Ivoire](#), [Ghana](#)) in line with the Frameworks and the National Implementation Plans ([Côte d’Ivoire](#), [Ghana](#)). WCF is working with the companies to adopt and scale up CSC innovations as part of their CFI commitments. This includes training 300,000 farmers in CSC agricultural practices, promoting 400,000 hectares of cocoa agroforestry, and supporting farmers to obtain land tenure and also register 1.7 million trees over the next four years.

WCF is similarly working with partners in Colombia to identify opportunities promote CSC innovations as part of CFI Colombia([Cocoa, Forest and Peace initiative](#)).

III. Comparison of accomplishments against targets for established performance & impact indicators

Comparison of accomplishments against and targets for established performance and impact indicators – year 3					
#	Indicator	Base line	Y3 Target	Y3 Actual	Notes
Climate-Smart Cocoa Main Objective/Goal: Increased private sector investment and	Amount of investment leveraged in U.S. dollars for climate change, from private and public sources, because of USG assistance (4.8.2-10)	\$2.1 M (\$1.7M USA ID, \$400k companies)	\$636k	\$653k	<p><u>West Africa:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touton - CSC training: \$150k • Rainforest Alliance Ghana - CSC training-of-trainers and training: \$50k • Cargill - Capacity building and nurseries for shade trees planting and tree ownership registration: \$35k • UTZ/RA CdI identification of CSC practices by ICRAF: \$101k <p>Additional investment in CSC will be made</p>

engagement that promotes and supports the adoption of CSA among smallholders in cocoa-producing landscapes					through the company investments in CFI. <u>Central America/DR</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program partners: Honduras (Helvetas-Chocolats Halba, and SOCODEVI), Nicaragua (Solidaridad) and Dominican Republic (APROCACI, Roig, Cacao CONACADO and FURAROKA-RIZEK)- establishment of 50 trial plots of high value CSC agroforestry systems based on design and technical assistance of CSC Program: \$100k • CIAT - Climate exposure maps and CSC curriculum for Central America and Caribbean in alliance with CSC Program: \$40k • Rikolto - CSC curriculum development and regional CSC strategy: \$17K • Swiss Agency for Cooperation in Central America (SDC) – Agroforestry Knowledge Management Project: \$150k • Helvetas Honduras, Solidaridad Nicaragua, Rikolto Central America, CSC Monitoring System: \$10K
	Number of participating private sector companies and corporations implementing CSA technologies and activities	9	22	11 (Latin America) + 11 (West Africa) = total 20 unique companies.	Nicaragua: 3, Honduras: 3, El Salvador: 2, Dominican Republic: 3 West Africa: 11
	Number of CSA technologies and activities newly adopted by participating companies	0	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Ghana: CSC training manual, CocoaLink and Tree Registration • In Central America: High value cocoa agroforestry systems with cocoa-plantains-fruit and timber trees incorporated in the work plan of 6 partners.
Climate-Smart Cocoa IR 1: Implementation of a shared cocoa/agroforestry strategy for addressing climate	Climate-Smart Cocoa (member-ratified) strategy document addressing climate change threats to farmer livelihoods in cocoa growing regions developed and shared	0	0	0	This document will be developed out of the Inception Report and the individual country-level strategy documents and will be completed by the end of 2019. In West Africa this will continue to align with the CFI national action plans (2) and the CFI company action plans (34).
	Number of participating private sector companies and corporations	9	20	11 (LA) + 9 (West Africa) = total 20	Over 40 countries if considering the 34 CFI companies.

change threats to farmer livelihoods in cocoa growing regions	engaged in climate-smart cocoa				
	Existence of Cocoa–Climate Landscape Report detailing impact of climate change on the cocoa sector & current landscape of private sector activities & investments in CSA	0	1	6	2 total in West Africa 4 National Cocoa–Climate Landscape reports available for target countries in Central America and Caribbean
	Existence of cocoa agroforestry market system recommendations and work plan	0	1	2	2 total Final report has been delivered by ACIDI/VOCA
	Existence of multi-stakeholder workgroup, engaged to develop a shared cocoa/agroforestry strategy	0	6 countries	7 countries	7 total Workgroups have been set up in Côte d’Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ghana, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Columbia has joined CFI with a focus on CSC.
	Existence of CSA investment plan, including analysis of opportunities in CSA pilots and innovations	0	0	0	Investment plan to be completed year 4.
Climate-Smart Cocoa IR2: 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	4	3	So far, lessons from 3 CSC pilots in Central America and Caribbean shared via online information platform accessed by CSC Program partners. Lessons from the additional pilots will be incorporated into the CSC investment plan.

Climate-Smart Cocoa Outputs —IR2 7	Number of CSA pilot projects started through actors coordinating with CSC Program	0	10	11	11 total (see section V)
	Number of CSA pilot projects that have been evaluated and marked for future recommendations	0	4	2	The CSC manual and a tree tenure registration are being prepared for scaling
	Existence of learning agenda for CSA pilot projects that identifies key learning questions	0	1	1	1 total The CSC Inception Report has been delivered in October 2017 and outlines an initial/potential further learning agenda.
	Number of actor-linkages and information sharing agreements established	0	10	10	10 total (more than 30 if considering CFI) WCF signed a letter of intent with Ghana Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) Secretariat. Agreements on pilots have been reached with Hershey, Farmerline, Touton, UTZ, Rainforest Alliance and Olam in West Africa. In Central America MoUs were signed with Lutheran World Relief (LWR), Vredeseilanden en Mesoamérica (VECOMA), Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and ECOM.

IV. 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 continued its engagement with the private sector, USAID, and other key stakeholders in a strategic dialogue on climate change and cocoa agroforestry models. This process aims to produce an initial CSC agroforestry strategy with an emphasis on private sector actions which, in the case of West-Africa, align with and informs the CFI. The final strategy is currently under development based on the already available CSC Inception Report. This report continues to be revisited and revised with the outputs and learnings from the various CSC pilots and the evolving understanding of climate change issues and possible strategic pathways for engagement and investment. As part of this work, country-level CSC strategy documents emerging from the CSC Strategy Working Groups (CSCSWG) in Central America have been developed. In partnership with Climate Focus, WCF is currently developing guidance for cocoa agroforestry that will provide reference to relevant technical implementation materials (including the CSC training manual) and detail the current context of government regulations, programs, and private sector interventions for Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire. This guidance will help support all CFI signatories, including all nine CSC Program companies further promote cocoa agroforestry as part of their CFI commitments. In Central America and the Caribbean WCF is collaborating with 11 companies in addition to the original 9 CSC companies.

Objective 1 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; and

1. Report on the Cocoa-Climate Landscape

The CSC Inception Report was completed in late 2017 and has been used to facilitate dialogue with key stakeholders throughout this reporting period.

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

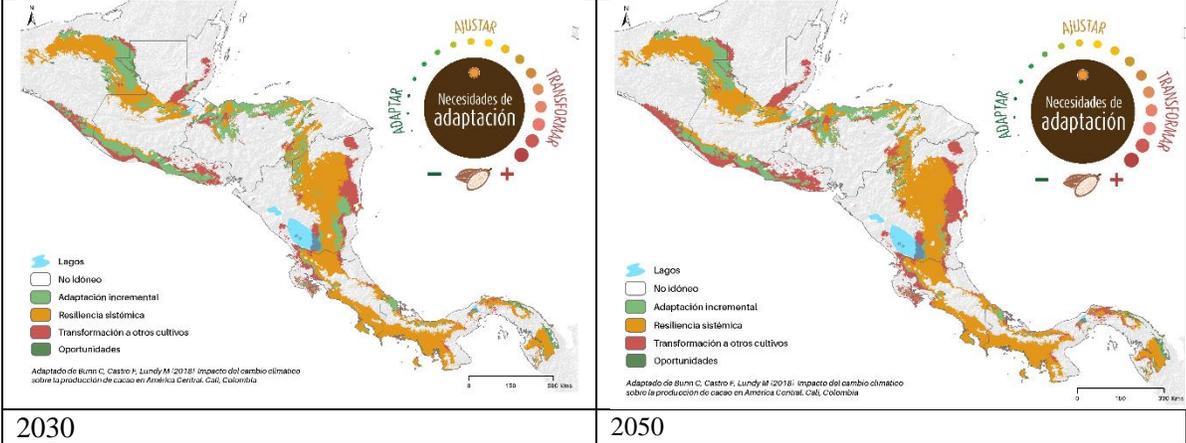
During this period, the CSC Program contributed to develop a report (see Annex 1) that addresses what the cost of inaction to climate impact on the cocoa sector would be. Over 2018 the WCF worked with the Climate Economic Analysis for Development, Investment and Resilience (CEADIR) program to look into the cost-benefit analysis of CSC practices in Ghana, based also on data provided by CSC Program companies. An initial analysis presented during a workshop in March 2019 demonstrated to CSC companies and partners that the business case for CSC is better than maintaining business as usual (BAU). WCF is now awaiting the approval of the final CEADIR report. WCF has continued to discuss the implications of the climatic predictions with members and national partners, to help drive the national dialogues on CSC and agroforestry models. In the case of Ghana, these have been linked to the development of a national CSC Standard. This standard will serve as a national strategic document that defines the framework for CSC production across the cocoa landscapes of Ghana, also in the context of the Emission Reduction Program.

In Latin America, WCF worked with CRS, within the Cocoa Alliance project, to carry out a pilot cost-benefit analysis of Cocoa Agroforestry systems as in El Salvador. Using a digital tool, they collected and processed data from 60 cocoa farms. The results were used for the final assessment of the impact of the Cocoa Alliance project and generated lessons for developing action/business plans for scaling CSC agroforestry (<http://rentabilidad-saf.alianza-cac.net/>)

WCF also supported CIAT to develop climate exposure studies for Mesoamerica (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Panama) and Caribbean (Dominican Republic). CIAT invested \$40,000 into the development of the maps. Final results of the study were presented to more than 125 key actors in the cocoa sector from five countries in Latin America during the National Consultations held during September-November 2018. In alliance with CIAT and Rikolto, detailed results of the studies - including maps and data - were presented to key partners in each CSC country to discuss the implications and generate concrete ideas on actions for climate change adaptation and mitigation in the cocoa growing zones. So far, Rikolto has invested \$10,000 into the development of

the curriculum. The results of the study, in the form of an Atlas ([Link](#)), and a Regional Guideline for CSC practices (See Annex 2) are already public. Information generated in the national and territorial level from this reporting period, form the foundation of a CSC curriculum for the region.

Figure 1 – Predicted climate impact for Central America



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

The global assessment of private sector investments in CSA, in collaboration with the Feed the Future CSA Learning Community, has been concluded and incorporated into the Inception Report.

West Africa

Overall, companies have demonstrated a strong willingness to integrate the issue of climate change into their strategies for West Africa and to adopt climate-smart practices that make social, environmental and business sense. WCF has been actively engaging with the CSC and broader CFI companies on the best engagement strategies, particularly for the development of the CFI Company Action Plans.

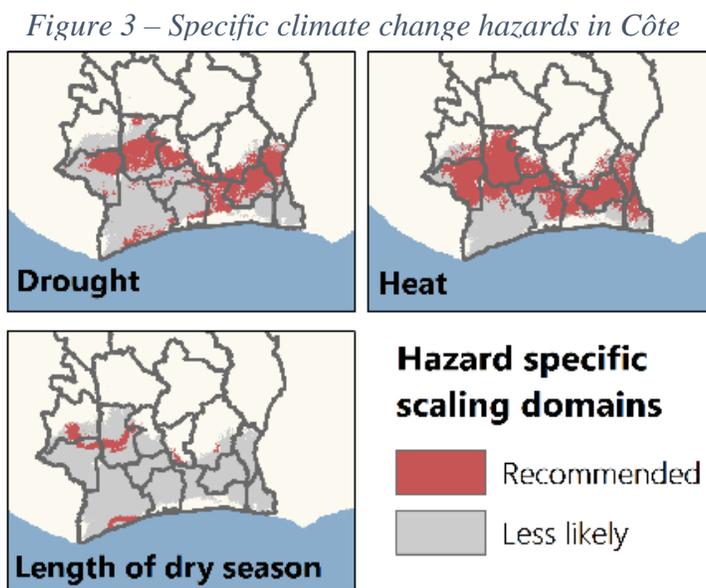
The CSC Program has made it an ongoing priority to provide more clarity by engaging on the policy discussions, strategy development process and to be a driving force of the CSC agroforestry TWG and other national initiatives. In Ghana, a good example is the integration of the CSC TWG on environment and climate change into the design of the launch of the Ghana Cocoa Platform (still pending).

In Côte d’Ivoire, the reclassification of the different classified forests, also for agricultural use, is generating much debate on how that influences strategy. In July 2019, the Ivorian Ministry of Water and Forests (MINEF) adopted a new forest code. This is particularly relevant to the goal of increasing private sector investment in CSC as the new forest code puts in place policies to protect remaining forests and promote cocoa agroforestry in the classified forests and rural domain. WCF, along with technical experts from the donor community, have provided feedback on the new code. WCF, in a concerted effort with a broad group of stakeholders and through the organization of multiple workshops and expert meetings, is currently providing input into the operational decrees that will accompany the Forest Code.

WCF has also contributed to the design and organization of a national dialogue on agroforestry, which produced a first set of national agroforestry guidelines. WCF continues to work with the CCC on more detailed agroforestry guidelines which will be integrated into the broader agroforestry guidance document being developed by WCF. The same national guidelines also guided the development of topics within the CSC manual for Côte d'Ivoire.

In late 2018, the Learning Community and CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) performed joint visits to companies in Ghana. The appetite for pre-competitive joint learning can link companies to high-quality research initiatives in “learning sites” and provided them with an introduction to a larger pilot set of CSA tools currently being tested or finalized. One example of a continued link with learning through the CGIAR is how several companies continue to engage through the new CGIAR CocoaSoils program.

Companies are increasingly coming out with revised sustainability commitments that include a greater focus on environment sustainability, particularly on addressing deforestation and incorporating climate smart objectives. The companies are building upon the WCF CSC outputs and exchanges. Examples include: 1) the CSC project by Touton in Ghana’s Western Region, which has fully adopted WCF’s work on CSC farmer training (see section 5.1); 2) Hershey’s new, half-billion-dollar sustainable cocoa strategy ‘Cocoa for Good’, which has a focus on zero deforestation and increased agroforestry to protect forests and climates by investing in growing cocoa under shade while also focusing on productivity; and 3) the Mars ‘Sustainable in a Generation’ that uses data driven evidence to tackle deforestation and climate change.



Additional analytic work in collaboration with CCAFS and Rainforest Alliance has led to a deeper understanding of the specific hazards that underlie the climate change impact predictions for Côte d'Ivoire (figure 3), as part of the CSC practices identification process and the subsequent study in the second part of 2018.

Latin America

The members of the CSC Strategic Working Groups of the four target countries of Latin America have maintained a high level of interest in the theme of CSC and have engaged actively in the actions of the CSC Program. A total of 40 organizations including nine cocoa and chocolate companies are regularly participating in the bilateral and multilateral working sessions in the expansion of the CSC Inception Reports, CSC sectorial strategies, and to implement CSC pilots in the framework of the CSC strategies. WCF is currently editing the CSC inception reports and sectorial strategy documents for the four target countries of Latin America, as well as translating them into Spanish for public distribution at the end of 2019. WCF has also engaged with the governments and private sector actors of Nicaragua and Honduras to incorporate CSC within the national cocoa strategy and work plans.

The CSC Program also provided technical advice and support for the process to consolidate the Regional Technical Platform of Cocoa. In January 2019, the representatives of the cocoa sectors of the seven Central American Integration System (SICA) member countries (Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama) met in Costa Rica to develop the annual work plan for 2019 of the regional platform to position itself in the policy arena, to further collaboration between the cocoa sectors of the different countries in strategic themes including CSC WCF (via CSC Program) has been invited to be an advisory member of the regional cocoa platform, especially to facilitate analysis and deliberations on scaling of CSC in the region.

WCF is collaborating with Rikolto and the Swiss Agency for Cooperation in Central America (SDC) to launch the Knowledge Management Project of the Cacao Value Chain in Central America (2018-2022). The Project was developed with technical assistance of CSC Program and will help cocoa farmers in the Central American region increase their standard of living through diversified cocoa agroforestry systems products.

2. Cocoa Agroforestry Market System Assessment

In 2017, ACDI/VOCA completed the cocoa agroforestry market system/ value chain assessment in Liberia and key lessons have been integrated into the CSC Inception Report.

3. Governance/structure of CSA dialogue

The CSC Program continues to engage with the companies at the global, regional and national levels and to work with the national governments, CSOs and networks. The CSC Program in West-Africa is now fully integrated with the CFI engagement process. At the country level, WCF is co-facilitating the various types of strategic groups that lead the national dialogues on CSC, agroforestry and other CFI themes.

West Africa

For West Africa, the Program directly collaborates with the existing platforms managed by the national cocoa institutions (particularly the CCC and Ghana Cocobod) and the National REDD+ Secretariats. In Côte d'Ivoire, the strategic dialogue on CSC strategy and piloting happens within the public/private partnership platform's Thematic Group on Environment and Climate Change and within CFI, while in Ghana the current CSC/CFI thematic group is to advise both the Ghana Cocoa Platform (GCP), and the Emission Reduction Plan's Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Program 'GCFRP). WCF's technical group work in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana aligns with the governance structure for climate change and agroforestry as part of the larger governance structure of CFI.

Latin America

To roll out the CSC Program, WCF convened key actors in the cocoa sectors of the four target countries to form the CSC Working Group. Through this engagement, we have been able to build and maintain collaboration with a number of public and private sector partners.

In addition, WCF is engaging with the Cocoa Integration Committee of Central America and the Dominican Republic (SICACAO) which has the purpose to contribute to the sustainable development of the cocoa sector. It is made up of public and private representatives of the cocoa value chain of the member countries of SICA (currently Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama). The regional platform has defined a clear objective to foster CSC in

the region providing opportunity for public and private engagement and investment in CSC.

In late 2018, WCF facilitated the CSC Program strategy meetings in the target countries to foster ongoing CSC dialogue with key stakeholders. The events brought together more than 80 participants from Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua who reflected on climate exposure maps, national CSC strategies and work plan for implementation of CSC pilots in each of the countries. The participants expressed openness and desire to share knowledge and collaborate on best practices to promote CSC and advance cocoa sustainability in the region.

4. CSC Framework & Investment Plan

West Africa

In West Africa, WCF is continuing to engage with public and private sector partners through the thematic working groups and CFI governance structures to further the CSC investment plan development. Moreover, WCF is finalizing the current CSC pilots whose learnings will contribute directly to the investment plan.

Latin America

During the reporting period, WCF engaged with members of CSCSWG in the program countries via bilateral and collective working sessions to advance the process of developing CSC strategies. Using the results from climate exposure mapping and contents of the Inception Report, partners from these countries analyzed their roles and generated concrete ideas and inputs to build CSC strategies both at the sectorial and the organizational level leading to National CSC strategy documents. The documents have been revised by the key actors.

For developing action and business plans to stimulate investments for scaling CSC in Latin America, WCF carried out working sessions with key-actors in each target country to review and analyze lessons and new knowledge generated by the CSC Program and to stimulate ideas and actions for scaling CSC. These ideas are going to be integrated into draft documents of action and investment plans currently under development.

- V. 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 CSC pilots;
2. Identification of key learning questions;
3. Implementation of initial and additional pilots;
4. Compilation of lessons learned; and
5. Improvement and promotion of successful pilots.

1. Identification, Design, and Implementation of Pilots (activity 1 & 3)

With the initial funding, the Program identified three pilot projects to start within the first three years, on CSC training, agroforestry and heat and drought tolerant planting materials. In addition to those three initial pilots, described below, the Program has been designing and piloting additional innovations to stimulate private sector investment and engagement for the adoption of CSC practices. Some pilots originated out of the strategy development process within the different technical working groups, while others arose from emerging partnerships with individual companies or groups of partners. Moreover, through CFI, additional pilots were identified for implementation in 2019 based on the development of the company CFI action plans. The final phase of our work on key CSC pilots is focused on learning that will be integrated into the CSC Framework and Investment Plan by the end of 2019.

In the section below, we present several additional pilots that have been developed.

CSC Training Curriculum

WCF has been building on existing scientific efforts in Ghana to identify CSA practices per climatic impact zone. WCF, in partnership with Rainforest Alliance, the CGAIR's CCAFS Program and Cocobod to develop a CSC curriculum. The CSC training modules and farmer handouts supplement the Cocobod's harmonized productivity training curriculum. In this reporting period it was agreed with Cocobod and the Forest Investment Program to organize a national review workshop to look into the CSC manual, and to adapt and adopt the manual as an official Cocobod CSC manual. Several CSC companies have organized training on CSC practices during the current cocoa season, and WCF will report on this in the investment report and final report.

WCF has been working with UTZ/Rainforest Alliance in Côte d'Ivoire to proceed in a similar fashion, with the aim to organize a similar training of trainers and to proceed with scaling of the materials afterwards through their certification network. On January 31 WCF held a national validation workshop on the findings on CSC practices for Côte d'Ivoire. The CCC has since agreed to support this initial year of testing before they organize a national validation workshop in Q2 of 2020. WCF works with the CSC/CFI companies again on a training of trainers, with the aim of reaching the producers from which these companies source directly. WCF is taking care of curriculum development, based on a study performed by ICRAF-CGIAR that has recently become available. RA/UTZ are supporting the developing the recommendations based on CGIAR's research, and on participatory validation and local adaptation exercises. UTZ is investing approximately \$150,000 in the development of the CSC curriculum

During 2018, CIAT, Rikolto and WCF collaborated to elaborate the climate exposure study of the cocoa producing areas of Central America and the Caribbean including the target countries of CSC Program. The findings of the study were critical for developing a CSC curriculum based on the current and future climate trends for the cocoa growing zones and evidence-based knowledge on options for adaptation and mitigation for specific cocoa growing zones, identified during the national and territorial consultations. WCF in alliance with CIAT and Rikolto has completed the CSC curriculum for Central America and Caribbean by organizing information on the impact of climate change and site-specific options for adaptation and mitigation for each cocoa growing zones of the region. WCF hired the service of a local IT contractor to program a Web based information system for organizing and accessing information of CSC curriculum of Central America and Caribbean based on the information developed by WCF and its partners. It will available for consultation and use by a wide range of actors from the cocoa sectors in November 2019.

Cocoa agroforestry market systems linkages

This pilot has been completely finalized in the previous reporting period.

WCF has continued the in-country dialogue on CSC/agroforestry as part of the CSC Programs strategic engagement. In Q4 of 2018 in Ghana, WCF engaged partners in joint events for a continued agroforestry dialogue. In Côte d'Ivoire, WCF collaborated with UNDP for a joint strategy for the financing of cocoa rehabilitation through mass adoption of agroforestry and has also collaborated with CCC and FIRCA to conduct a strategic workshop in cocoa agroforestry model recommendations.

Heat and Drought Tolerant Planting Material

WCF, in partnership with Bioversity International is currently implementing field activities for evaluation of heat and drought tolerant cocoa planting materials in Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica and Dominican Republic. During the reporting period Bioversity International, CATIE (Costa Rica), Agrosavia (Colombia) and UESC (Brazil) started exchanging data from the existing cocoa trials. Utilizing innovative statistical methods, the data was analyzed to identify trends of heat & drought tolerance, based on genetic and environmental components. Detailed and thorough discussion between project partners resulted in a comprehensive proposal of indicators and protocols for measuring heat and drought tolerance. Work was initiated to build a knowledge platform that will host the information on heat and drought tolerance in cocoa available to a wide range of stakeholders.

Other Pilot Opportunities

During the Strategy Meeting on November 30, 2017 and based on the investment pathways discussed in the CSC Inception Report as well as the knowledge development needs in the context of CFI, the CSC members identified additional pilots to consider integrating into the CSC Program.

Innovation	Location	Partners
CSC Training Curriculum based on climate exposure maps	Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana	CGIAR/CCAFS, Cocobod, RA, SFL
Cocoa agroforestry market systems linkages	Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia	ACDI/VOCA
Heat and drought tolerant planting materials	Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana	WCF ACI, CNRA, CRIG
<i>Learning about Land Tenure in the face of Climate Change</i>	Ghana	Ecom, Hersheys, Winrock, USAID
<i>Using Cocoa-Link as a CSC training App</i>	(Côte d'Ivoire,) Ghana	CGIAR/CCAFS, Hersheys, Farmerline, RA/UTZ
<i>Proof of concept on Tree Tenure Registration</i>	Ghana	AgroEco Louis Bolk, Cocobod, Forestry Commission, RA, SFL
<i>Landscape management</i>	Ghana	FC, NCRC, OLAM, Touton, WUR

<i>CSC ISFM</i>	Ghana	IFDC (with WCF CLP)
<i>Cost and Benefit of CSC practices</i>	Ghana	CEADIR, CCAFS
<i>CSC agroforestry systems: collective learning from ongoing trials</i>	Dominican Republic El Salvador Honduras Nicaragua	Solidarity International, ONUDI Helvetas, SOCODEVI, APROCACAO FUNDOPO, FUPAROKA, CONACADO, APROCASI, Roig UES, Green Energy
<i>Economic analysis of Cocoa agroforestry systems</i>	El Salvador	CRS, CLUSA, LWR, Caritas

West Africa:

Learning about Land Tenure in the face of Climate Change

In Ghana, the CSC Program started a collaboration with Hershey, ECOM, and the USAID Tenure and Global Climate Change (TGCC) 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 joined the pilot to translate the learnings into the CSC strategy development process and continue to provide technical support to monitor the impact. Although this pilot has ended in the previous reporting period, the work continued to inform the ongoing work on tree tenure, particularly in Ghana and increasingly in Côte d'Ivoire where the new Forest Code is opening new opportunities for implementation, demonstrated by a round of meetings and workshops held in September after the Forest Code adoption in July 2019.

Using CocoaLink as a CSC training App

In Ghana, WCF has worked in partnership with Hershey to use their new Android training App ([CocoaLink](#)) to incorporate the CSC training curriculum. We are working with several partners, including Learning Community, Rainforest Alliance and UTZ, to add additional functionality (e.g. location-based advice, farmer segmentation, stepwise approach), integrate other mini Apps (e.g. shade tree advice, shade cover calculator) and other knowledge resources onto the platform. The App is now fully available in the Android Play Store, with several thousands of users already. Company partners are requested to pilot the App in combination with CSC training (of trainers). We are now working on surveying farmers and further piloting the App to make any refinements, as well as possibly adapting it for Côte d'Ivoire.

Proof of concept on Tree Tenure Registration

In collaboration with SFL and the local NGO Agro-Eco, WCF undertook a proof of concept pilot targeting 150 farmers. Funded by the FTF CSA Learning Community Project, this pilot aimed to (1) identify and build practical ways for farmers to register their planted trees; and (2) catalyze more discussion/action on the process of reforestation/tree planting. Part of the implementation included 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 now completed. The registration of 150 farmers has been successful (for the first time ever in Ghana) and this achievement has been picked up by media after WCF issued a [press release](#). The Thomson Reuters Foundation also performed a twin report both on the Winrock land tenure ([link](#)) and WCF CSC tree tenure pilots ([link](#)). In addition, WCF with

partners to develop and publish a manual and training guide in December 2018. Several of the CSC companies have started (or expressed their intention) to work on tree planting and registration, also in the context of CFI. In 2019 the policy dialogue on mainstreaming tree tenure and tree benefit sharing continues. On July 28, various stakeholders including UNDP, Companies, IDH, and Government held a national dialogue to take stock of the progress made with Tree tenure at Koforidua in the Eastern Region of Ghana. Various issues were clarified per the meeting, including:

- Clarifying the minimum data required for registration and other information collected as a tree grows;
- Determining the farmer benefits from nurturing tree through the payment of a tree tendering toll/fee;
- Clarifying that the planted trees are solely owned by farmer or the one who planted it;

Three committees were established to look at some outstanding issues from the tree tenure dialogue

- Committee 1: Harmonize two manuals- a. manual developed by WCF 2. Manual developed by Ghana Forest Commission
- Committee 2: Determine the cost of hectare for registration and verification. This will help determine the total cost of registration and help government budget for verification. Various aspects of this committee's work will be included in the harmonized manual.
- Committee 3: Review the 1962 Concessions Act that will allow farmers to own farms off-reserve

CGAIR/CCAFS Learning Sites

In Ghana, WCF coordinates 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. This exercise has also led to the identification of two scientific CSC learning sites (see figure 2), within CSC company members' operations, where CSA practices are piloted and researched. Learnings will be shared as they become available.

Learning on CSC Landscape Approach

The CSC Program has brought together two learning consortia on the development of a landscape approach for CSC, led by member companies Olam and Touton. This is within the context of the Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Program, but also in the context of global landscape standards such as those under development by Verra and others. Both companies are working with the CSC Program to collect lessons on how to set up and manage multi-stakeholder platforms on landscape governance to share with CSC companies. WCF will collect this information over the course of the year and work with national knowledge partners within this landscape to include more companies into the learning. WCF is continuing to support Cocobod on the development of a CSC landscape standard in line with the overall. On September 28, WCF participated and supported the Cocobod-hosted CSC Standard development committee, aiming for a CSC landscape standard in Ghana. Currently a roadmap document is under development to finalize the document, propose a pilot, and make recommendations to Cocobod Management for adoption.

WCF will also be developing a tool kit for guiding these types of landscape processes through a consultancy with the Nature Conservation Research Centre (NCRC), who have pioneered approaches in various landscapes in Ghana and are able to develop and share tools that can help companies set up new landscape initiatives.

CSC Integrated Soil Fertility Management

In 2018 and 2019, WCF in collaboration with its Cocoa Livelihoods Program (CLP) supports research on integrated soil fertility management (ISFM) in Ghana. In partnership with the International Fertilizer Development Center and the WCF Cocoa Livelihoods Program, the research has the following objectives:

- Identify the business case for:
 - biofertilizer in raising cocoa seedlings for rehabilitation of old farms;
 - the promotion shade trees that help improve soil fertility for rehabilitation of old farms;
 - the promotion of compost to improve soil health on mature cocoa plantations;
- Develop CSC ISFM training modules (both paper and digital);
- Develop decision tools/CSC practice recommendations on ISFM;
- Organize of Training of Trainers; and
- Translate and validate for use also in Côte d’Ivoire.

The work is ongoing and in September, WCF organized working visits to monitor the state of the ISFM research plots set with four of the CSC companies (Touton, Hershey, Ecom and Barry Callebaut).

Cost Benefit Analysis of CSC practices

The USAID funded CEADIR, in collaboration with WCF, WCF member companies, Cocobod and CGIAR, conducted a cost-benefit analysis of more sustainable production practices for cocoa in Ghana. The focus was on whether these practices increase the long-term profits of farmers and companies while reducing bank lending risks and environmental impacts. WCF and CEADIR organized workshop on March 19, 2019 to discuss new findings from a cost-benefit analysis of the CSA practices currently tested and piloted in the cocoa value chain in Ghana. Immediately following the workshop, WCF hosted a closed-door session for CSC company members and key partners to discuss in greater detail the cost-benefit analysis of cacao production models in Ghana. CEADIR presented the spreadsheet-based model to companies how this can be used to estimate the economic and financial costs and benefits of cacao. The report, final analysis, video materials and calculation tools are expected shortly after USAID-CEADIR approval.

Latin America

Transformation of traditional cocoa agroforestry systems to CSC agroforestry systems

Traditional small farms face complex resource allocation decisions constrained by incomplete information access. Hence farm management and investment decisions can be improved through timely observation, recordkeeping, analysis and learning. In 2018, WCF started working on this pilot in Nicaragua, and as of 2019 the work has been extended to El Salvador, Honduras and Dominican Republic with the key partners in each country. Throughout 2019 WCF provided guidance and training to the implementing partners for the design of the pilot, data collection, processing, analysis and collective learning.

Establishment of high-value cocoa agroforestry systems

In 2018, WCF started providing technical assistance to key partners in Central America to pilot high value CSC agroforestry systems. Partners of CSC Program have initiated the process of establishing high value CSC agroforestry plots in the target countries. In 2019, the partners are continuing to complete the establishment of 40 high value cocoa agroforestry plots in the target countries and an

online information system is being developed for tracking the progress of the plots.

Economic analysis of Cocoa agroforestry systems

In 2018, WCF started working with Cocoa Alliance project of El Salvador (CRS, LWR, CARITAS and CLUSA) to develop the study protocols. In 2019, primary information on investments, costs and returns based on projected performance of cocoa agroforestry systems is being collected to carry out cost-benefit analysis. These analyses will help optimize design of cocoa agroforestry systems and Programs to scale CSC agroforestry systems in diverse cocoa landscapes. The results of the study will also facilitate investment and rate of return analysis of different typologies of cocoa agroforestry systems influenced by management, climate and market scenarios. This will feed into the future investment plan of the key donor in El Salvador to scale CSC.

Tools for scaling CSC agroforestry systems

WCF and partners are developing four tools for scaling site-specific CSC Agroforestry systems. The tools are: 1) Atlas of Climate change exposure of cocoa growing territories; 2) Digital platform for prioritizing CSC practices based on climate risks, 3) Digital platform for evaluation of performance of CSC Agroforestry systems and 4) Digital platform for financial analysis of CSC Agroforestry systems.

Supported by WCF, key actors of cocoa sectors of the region are already using and validating these tools with smallholders in the CSC Program Countries. These Web-based tools are also projected to be used as platforms for collective learning, harnessing data, evidence and information about site-specific CSC agroforestry systems across the region. Once validated, the tool collection will be available as Web-based public goods for the use of a wide range of actors interested in scaling CSC agroforestry in Central America and Caribbean.

2. Identification of Key Questions

WCF has developed the learning questions (and indicators) for each new pilot beginning in the design phase in collaboration with the participating partners. 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. During this reporting period, WCF has developed and validated data collection protocols for newly established high-value cocoa agroforestry systems and for transformation of traditional cocoa agroforestry systems to climate smart systems. The data collection system is now being integrated into online information system that will facilitate the data storing and processing for partners and will permit the actors to participate in collective learning based on evidence generated by data and information regarding CSC agroforestry systems.

3. Lessons Learned and Promotion

The compilation of lessons learned, and promotion of successful pilots are the key areas of focus of the CSC Program's third year, now that the CSC pilots are coming to an end. The CSC Program team fine-tunes a robust M&E and communication strategy in anticipation of sharing the successes and challenges in pilot development. The objective is to catalyze private sector adoption of successful innovations, both through the CSC Investment Plan and as part of CFI.

VI. Communications and Outreach

West Africa

In this third year of the CSC Program, communication and outreach for CSC in West-Africa has fully aligned with CFI also to ensure efficiency in messaging and to prevent information overload especially on the part of companies.

The current reporting period was marked by the preparation and finalization of the CFI company action plans, and the subsequent global communications surrounding the public publication of these plans. The CSC achievements, pilots and resources are consistently highlighted during the various national events that the WCF environmental staff are attending. Some examples are highlighted below:

On the 12th of October, WCF supported a national dialogue on agroforestry in Ghana, organized by SNV and updated the many stakeholders who were present on the advances of the CSC Program and CFI.

A key event highlighting the need for CSC practices in the region was the visit of HRH the Prince of Wales to Ghana, with a dedicated event on CFI on November the 5th. Companies, NGO partners and also a farmer spoke about their CSC/CFI investments and how they respond to a changing climate.

Another key event that WCF supported was organized by UNDP in Côte d'Ivoire on the sustainable financing of a zero-deforestation cocoa value chain in the context of climate change. Discussions on developing finance mechanisms with large financial partners continue today.

In December 2018, CocoaLink 2.0 was launched in the Google Play Store reaching out directly to thousands of users with new and interactive content on CSC, including an interactive map.

In February, WCF presented a one-hour session on CSC, CFI and monitoring during the national validation workshop of the Accountability Framework Initiative.

On February 20, WCF organized a CSC Strategy Webinar for the CSC companies and USAID to be able to appreciate, access and discuss the progress and accomplishment of the CSC Program up to date.

The CSC Program features prominently within the scientific discussion on CSC in-country. Our partnership with the CGIAR's CCAFS Program ensures joint organization of events.

Latin America

During this period, WCF facilitated numerous CSC strategic working groups and used the Inception Report as a foundation for strategy development. WCF also presented the CSC Program to a wide audience during the National CSC strategy meeting held during November-December 2018. These events generated discussions and debates on the advances of CSC in the region and the strategies to scale it. The theme of CSC was explicitly incorporated into the work plan of SICACAO, the regional cocoa development platform for Central America and Caribbean.

WCF participated in the National Cocoa forum in El Salvador in 2018. This event generated interests from many actors of cocoa value chain to learn more about CSC and the strategies to scale it. The theme of CSC has now been explicitly incorporated into national Cocoa development strategy of El Salvador and WCF is expected to provide technical assistance and guidance to the cocoa sector of El Salvador.

In February 2019, WCF participated in one regional meeting for consolidation of the Regional Technical Platform of Cocoa convened by the Secretariat of the Central American Agricultural Council with support from COSUDE and Rikolto. WCF facilitated the inclusion of CSC in the objectives and work plan of the regional cocoa platform.

In August 2019, WCF was invited to share the results of CSC Program with the key actors of the cocoa sector of Guatemala with special interest in learning about the tools to facilitate the scaling of CSC systems. The theme of CSC is explicitly incorporated into National Cocoa development Plan of Guatemala and Rikolto, is expected to provide technical assistance and guidance to scale CSC in Guatemala.

In September 2019, WCF participated in the launching of National Action Plan for Cocoa, Forest and Peace initiative of Columbia. It was an opportunity to exchange ideas and to discuss the relevance and utility of the lessons of WCF programs (CSC, CFI, and Cocoa Action) to support the Action Plan of Cocoa Forest & Peace Initiative (CFI Colombia).

VII. Discussion of any implementation problems encountered

During this reporting period, the CSC Program experienced relatively few implementation problems.

There is still no functioning general public-private platform for cocoa in Ghana which is creating challenges with respect to aligning the CSC strategy discussions and facilitating industry engagement with the government bodies.

The early 2018 ban on any productivity interventions in Côte d'Ivoire continues to make it quite difficult to motivate any new investments and engagement on cocoa productivity among the companies in-country. Cocoa agroforestry is a less contentious area which has opened some avenues, but the sector is holding back until clearer direction is provided by the CCC as to what recommended agroforestry models would look.

In June 2019 the West-Africa Program Manager announced his departure from the Program. WCF brought on board Agro-Eco to support the CSC Program work in West Africa. The Agro-Eco team has been closely engaged in the majority of the CSC Program work over the past three years (e.g. Inception Report, CSC curriculum and tree tenure). Therefore, the transition has been relatively smooth.

Finally, the socio-political trouble in Nicaragua during this reporting period impeded travels and meetings. CSC Program staff could not travel to cocoa growing areas of Nicaragua to carry out program related consultations and meetings with partners on the ground. The National Cocoa Commission and the CSCSWG of Nicaragua also did not meet during this period, hindering progress of CSC strategy and CSC pilot development. In August and September some level of normalcy has been restored although the business and investment climate of Nicaragua remains seriously affected.

VIII. Summary of expected activities over the next six months

The project management team submitted the 2019 project workplan. The following is a brief updated summary of key activities outlined in that submission:

The CSC Program will come to an end in May 2020. Therefore, the majority of activities listed below aim to close out in early 2020.

1. Program Summary Objective 1: Implement a shared cocoa/agroforestry strategy for addressing climate change threats to farmer livelihoods in cocoa-growing regions:
 - Continue to build commitment from public and private sector partners to participate in CSC/CFI;
 - Continue to build and engage with the global platform for CSC;
 - Continue to build and engage with CSCSWG in-country;
 - (In West Africa) Continue to integrate CSC into the CFI on ending deforestation and forest degradation;
 - Finalization of the CSC investment plan, aligned with deforestation commitment (in West Africa and Latin America), and approved by the global CSC platform; and
 - Focus on the development of the CSC Program exit strategy
 - Aggregate and publish best practices and learnings from CSC Program.

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:
 - Institutionalize working groups to identify and link sector actors with specific interest in piloting CSA relevant projects;
 - Support and follow-up CSC training pilots with CSC member companies;
 - Finalize training modules, organization of expert review, training of trainers (ToT), and training pilots with member companies;
 - Integrate additional dynamic and location-based tools into the new Android CocoaLink App, in addition to the new CSC content, potentially also in Côte d'Ivoire;
 - CSC training materials integrated into App with CIAT, Rikolto and LWR;
 - CSC agroforestry system evaluation, monitoring and learning systems. Online digital systems with Solidaridad International, Helvetas and Roig S.A;
 - Training manuals and protocols for innovative CSC ISFM produced, with a focus on organic addiments, ToT organized and farmer training within the CLP program finalized;
 - Create learning tools on the organization and evaluation of multi-stakeholder platforms on climate-smart cocoa landscape governance, including templates for scale-out to other areas;
 - Expand tree registration to Côte d'Ivoire (short consultancy)
 - Implementation of high value cocoa agroforestry systems, and organization of joint in-country events on optimal agroforestry configurations; and
 - Apply high level learning questions framework and indicators across pilots and region. Learning briefs developed on finalized pilots.

 - Bring the CSC Program to a close and disseminate the findings and business case for private sector engagement and investment.

Latin America Acronyms

Country	Acronym	Organizations	
El Salvador	CLUSA	CLUSA El Salvador	
	LWR	Lutheran World Relief	
	CARITAS	CARITAS 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	
	CRS	Catholic Relief Services	
	Honduras	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	
LWR		Lutheran World Relief	
Nicaragua		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 Internacional	
	VECOMA	Vredeseilanden en Mesoamérica	
	ECOM	ECOM Agrotrade	
Dominican Republic	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.		

CFI Company Signatories

CFI COMPANY SIGNATORIES	
1	Barry Callebaut
2	Blommer Chocolate Company(1)
3	Cargill Cocoa and Chocolate
4	Cémoi(1)
5	Chocolats Halba (2)
6	Cocoanect
7	Cococo Chocolatiers
8	ECOM Group(2)
9	Fazer
10	Ferrero
11	General Mills Inc.
12	Godiva Chocolatier Inc.
13	Guittard Chocolate Company
14	The Hershey Company
15	Indcresa(2)
16	Kuapa Kokoo(2)
17	Lindt & Sprüngli Group
18	Marks & Spencer Food
19	Mars Wrigley
20	Meiji Co. Ltd.(2)
21	Mondelēz
22	Nestlé
23	Olam Cocoa
24	PBC Limited(2)
25	Sainsbury's
26	SIAT(1)
27	Sucden
28	Tesco
29	Toms Group(2)
30	Touton
31	Unilever(1)
32	UPL(1)
33	Valrhona
34	J.H. Whittaker & Sons(2)

(1) Côte d'Ivoire only (2) Ghana only