



**World Cocoa Foundation
African Cocoa Initiative Phase II (ACI II)
Cooperative Agreement AID-OAA-A-16-00052
September 1, 2016 – May 31, 2022**

Key Points

Increased Production and Use of Quality Cocoa Planting Material

In the area of cocoa planting material, ACI II helped IRAD to introduce clonal planting material to farmers. This groundbreaking work has prepared farmers to consider cocoa farming as a business, with meticulous application of prescribed inputs and good agricultural practices. Already, the farmers who followed the process are reaping the rewards of more predictable and consistent harvests, which will translate into higher and more consistent incomes in the years to come.

In Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, the emphasis was on identifying potential heat and drought tolerant cocoa varieties. As a result, CRIG has identified four hybrid varieties that can be propagated for distribution to farmers. Similarly, CNRA has established a central budwood garden for 17 potential heat and drought tolerant varieties identified across the cocoa producing areas. These results can reduce the impact of cocoa production of climate change by significantly reducing the reliance on forests for the establishment of new cocoa farms.

An Enabled Ecosystem for Financial Services

A study of the “cost of cash” showed a USD 21.4 million per annum loss to actors in the cocoa value chain in Ghana because of the reliance on cash transactions. A follow up study to assess the cost of digitization in the cocoa value chain in Ghana. This study revealed significant (USD 11.5m) potential cost savings to the cocoa value chain in Ghana from the use of digital payments rather than cash. The findings from the two studies are informing industry-wide digitization of payments in the cocoa supply chain such as the Cocoa Management System (CMS), led by the Ghana Cocoa Board.

Village Savings and Loan Associations in Côte d'Ivoire

The VSLA activity in Cote d'Ivoire demonstrated how savings groups can help build resilience in farming communities as group members thrived despite COVID-19 challenges. In all, 528 new VSLAs, against a target of 384, were set up with most registered members being women younger than 30 years. Savings mobilized and loans granted to members exceeded \$1 million during the implementation period. However, lending from formal financial institutions lagged far behind after linking the VSLAs to these institutions. To boost formal lending, a lot more work is required on the part of the financial institutions to extend their presence and reach in the cocoa producing areas.

Improved Flavor Quality of Cocoa

Governments and cocoa research institutes in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria invested on average \$3 for every \$1 of USAID funds deployed for the establishment of flavor quality laboratories, signaling a recognition of the importance of flavor and quality in origin countries. With the example of Ghana, where all cocoa extension training agents are trained in harvest and postharvest practices for flavor and quality, ACI II has created the capacity to improve flavor and quality for about 70% of the world's cocoa beans.

AFRICAN COCOA INITIATIVE PHASE II (ACI II) RESULTS HIGHLIGHTS



OBJECTIVE
01

INCREASED PRODUCTION AND USE OF QUALITY COCOA PLANTING MATERIAL



The Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (CRIG) has:



Identified **4** cocoa hybrids that are tolerant to heat and drought stress



The Institute of Agricultural Research for Development (IRAD) in Cameroon:



TRAINED 138 Lead Farmers
22 Technicians and Research students
120 clonal cocoa farm plots and community budwood gardens established



Centre National de Recherche Agronomique (CNRA) in Côte d'Ivoire has:

Established central budwood garden for **71** Potential heat and drought tolerant cocoa varieties

2,592 copies of identified varieties survived in the budwood garden

65%

estimated improvement in seedpod production by irrigating cocoa seed gardens.

OBJECTIVE
02

AN ENABLED ECOSYSTEM FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES



Better than Cash Alliance (BTCA) "cost of cash" study, showed a USD **21.4m** per annum loss to actors in the cocoa value chain because of the reliance on cash transactions.



WCF study on the cost of digitization in the cocoa value chain revealed USD **11.5m** potential cost savings from the use of digital payments rather than cash.

OBJECTIVE
03

VILLAGE SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS (VSLAs) IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE



528
384 TARGET
14,452 Registered members
3,650 Men
10,802 most members are Women below 30yrs



300 existing VSLAs linked to formal financial institutions, providing support to **6,902** members.

21,190 members of **828** groups mobilized savings of USD **1.85m**



USD **1.04m** granted as loans to **14,031** members

OBJECTIVE
04

IMPROVED FLAVOR QUALITY OF COCOA



In-country institutions (CRIG, CNRA, IRAD, CRIN) have invested at least **\$3** for every **\$1** of USAID funds deployed for flavour labs.

Four flavor laboratories fully functional and in operation, ensuring sensory and flavor analysis capacity for more than **70%** of the world's cocoa beans.



CHED of COCOBOD has trained more than **120,000** farmers in harvest and post-harvest techniques for improved cocoa flavor quality.

COCOBOD constructing new USD **350,000** flavor laboratory and training center at CRIG, doubling WCF member, Ezaki Glico/TCHO's initial investment of USD **170,000**

Flavor lab teams and sensory panels trained for Cameroon's IRAD, Côte d'Ivoire's CNRA, and Nigeria's CRIN.

VISIT US AT:

www.worldcocoafoundation.org/wcf-africa-cocoa-initiative
www.worldcocoa.org AND www.feedthefuture.gov



@worldcocoa



/worldcocoafoundation



@worldcocoafoundation



World Cocoa Foundation



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



World Cocoa
Foundation