



PRO-PLANTEURS

Professionnalisation des Producteurs & leurs Organisations pour une Cacaoculture durable

SHORT DESCRIPTION

PRO-PLANTEURS is a joint project of the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa together with the German and the Ivorian government. PRO-PLANTEURS aims to professionalize 20,000 cocoa-producing family-owned businesses and their 35 farmer organizations in three regions of the south-eastern part of Côte d'Ivoire. The objective is to improve the families' livelihoods by increasing their incomes and improving a balanced nutrition.

One objective of the project is, in particular, to provide women with opportunities to improve their income situation and create a better nutritional basis for their families, thus creating a positive impact on their living conditions. In addition, the project contributes to making cocoa production more attractive again to young cocoa farmers and female cocoa farmers, allowing them to earn a regular income from producing cocoa.

After a successful completion of the first phase, a further five-year follow-up phase is planned, starting in June 2020. PRO-PLANTEURS will then reach a total of 30,000 cocoa farmers including their cooperatives.



PRO-PLANTEURS NUMERICAL



“ COCOA FARMING IS NOT A DESTINY, BUT A VOCATION “

Improving living conditions of **20,000** cocoa farming families

Professionalization of **35** Cooperatives

3 Regions in south-eastern parts of Côte d'Ivoire

Phase II (starting 6/2020)

30,000 cocoa farming families

50 Cooperatives

76

Women trained as rural advisors,

16,000 families advised in balanced nutrition.

16 small-scale projects with **2,100**

women working in income-generating activities

16,000 farmers trained in Farmer Business Schools

Sensitization of **16,000** farmers in agroforestry

5,500 farmers instructed in Good Agricultural Practices

320 young entrepreneurs trained as service providers

49,000 shade trees on **1,500** ha land



PRO-PLANTEURS IS WORKING ON FOUR COMPONENTS – PROGRESS UP TO DATE

1 STRENGTHENING FARMER ORGANIZATIONS

By May 2020 PRO-PLANTEURS will have professionalized 35 cooperatives. 160 managers of cooperatives were trained for their management function and afterwards further coached. 3 series of events specifically on financial know-how.



“The entire management and especially the accounting of our organization faced serious problems. We even had not had any accountant. After been trained by PRO-PLANTEURS our board recognized the importance of employing an accountant with a proper office room and of sharing all data available on our business. Today, our cooperative has its own accountant. He was employed with the assent of our board.”

– Mamadou Zie BAMBA (Director of the cooperative KGS COOP-CA, Aboisso) –

PRO-PLANTEURS supports the farmer organizations through professionalization. In targeted training courses and accompanying coaching they learn how to improve their administration and the services they offer to their farmers.

Women are encouraged to take on more responsibility within the cooperatives, for example by forming Comités des Femmes to represent their interests. Through them, more women are to be motivated to leading roles.



PRO-PLANTEURS encourages sustainable cocoa cultivation. The project supports male and female cocoa farmers through direct consulting and trainings in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). These measures aim to increase sustainably productivity and to improve the quality of cocoa beans by the means of suitable fertilizers and selected plant materials. To improve their harvest and the quality of the cocoa, farmers are trained in Farmer Fields Schools. Farmer Business Schools train farmers in better management of their farm businesses and cultivation systems.



“I didn’t know how to run a business. Thanks to PRO-PLANTEURS I understood that I am the manager of my plantation. Now I manage my expenses and revenues. I was even able to save, and therefore to invest. In order to increase my income, I also grow other crops.”

– Drissa TRAORE (Producer, farmer organization SCAMA, Ayamé) –

2 IMPROVED COCOA PRODUCTION

PRO-PLANTEURS has trained 5,500 cocoa farmers in GAP. 6,200 farmers are educated in operational management. 9,100 cocoa farmers were sensitized to agroforestry. 46,000 shade trees were planted on 1,230 hectares of land.



PRO-PLANTEURS IS WORKING ON FOUR COMPONENTS – PROGRESS UP TO DATE

PRO-PLANTEURS works with 16 women's groups, in total 2,100 women, in income-generating activities. 76 rural advisors have been trained. 16,000 families have been sensitized in improved nutrition. 14,200 farmers have been trained in diversification.

“Thanks to PRO-PLANTEURS, our women's group was able to install a grinder and refiner machine, to transform manioc into attiéké. Because of the activity we can work and support our family and the village. Our vision is to build a kindergarten in our village Abouédé.”

– Martine N'GATTA ASSAORE (President of the women's group N'Gbossou, farmer organization CAAM) –

IMPROVING NUTRITION
THROUGH
DIVERSIFICATION

3



PRO-PLANTEURS promotes diversification. Women play a major role in improving living conditions, especially for the children. The approach is to diversify cultivation to improve income and nutrition. To this end, they are supported in activities such as the production, processing and marketing of other agricultural products apart from cocoa. A second focus is on overcoming food shortages and year-round food security.



PRO-PLANTEURS uses an integrated approach to disseminate best practices and success stories. PRO-PLANTEURS fosters the exchange between the cooperatives and other project participants. Dialogue and learning platforms allow organizations to jointly reflect and further develop. PRO-PLANTEURS builds upon the existing national platforms.

“The excellent cooperation between the various donors, especially the bilateral cooperation between Germany and Côte d'Ivoire, has made the good progress of this project possible. PRO-PLANTEURS is part of the Ivorian government's vision for a sustainable cocoa sector.”

– Kouakou MÉ (Conseil du Café-Cacao (CCC), PRO-PLANTEURS Day 9/2018) –



PRO-PLANTEURS strives for a holistic approach that integrates German and Ivorian actors. 2 major events with cooperatives and partners involved reflected on project approaches, experiences and learning successes. About 10 workshops on financing and competitiveness. 5 fact sheets convey specific project experiences.

PROMOTING JOINT
LEARNING

4



PRO-PLANTEURS – OUTLOOK

The objective of PRO-PLANTEURS is **to improve the living conditions of cocoa farmers and their families** in the project region by **increasing income** and **improving nutrition** and **preserving natural resources**. The members of the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa are involved in the implementation of PRO-PLANTEURS. They participate in the committees for steering and technical implementation on site and are organized in Germany in a project working group.

The project progress is regularly reflected upon and adjusted if necessary. The impact of the measures implemented by PRO-PLANTEURS is monitored based on defined indicators.



PRO-PLANTEURS II REACHES 30.000 COCOA FARMERS

Due to the success of the project, PRO-PLANTEURS will be transferred to another five-year follow-up phase starting in June 2020 and will continue to be jointly financed by the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa, the German Federal Government and the Ivorian Government. A total of 30,000 cocoa farming families and their cooperatives will then benefit from PRO-PLANTEURS. The project implementation is adapted to the current needs.

New component 3: Improvement of the cooperation within the supply chain

Through additional financing within the framework of a matching fund, the members of the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa can get involved in this project component and implement their own projects in cooperation with PRO-PLANTEURS.

The prerequisite for this is:

- **Contribution of the company projects to the 12 individual goals of the German Initiative on sustainable Cocoa**

Supported by these projects, PRO-PLANTEURS II addresses the urgent challenges in the cocoa sector:

- **Living Income**
- **Prevention of deforestation**
- **Combating abusive child labor**
- **Respect for human rights**
- **Traceability of cocoa**

PROJECT PARTNERS

German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (GISCO)
 Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
 Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)
 Le Conseil du Café-Cacao (CCC) (national cocoa authority of Côte d'Ivoire)

IMPLEMENTATION

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
 Judith Steffens (head of project), Contact: judith.steffens@giz.de

DURATION

1. Project phase: 5 years (06/2015-05/2020)
2. Project phase: 5 years (06/2020-05/2025)