

2018-2022 REPORT  
**COCOA, FORESTS  
& PEACE  
INITIATIVE**



Iniciativa Cacao,  
Bosques & Paz  
Colombia



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alianzas para la  
sostenibilidad



# Signatories



# Allies





**Iniciativa Cacao,  
Bosques & Paz  
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GIZ Colombia

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Climate Focus

Wildlife Conservation Society - WCS

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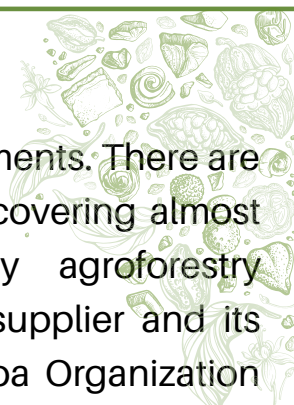
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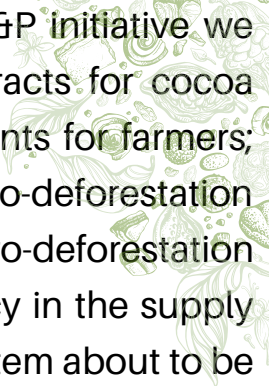
## Prologue

Cocoa can be found growing in 28 of Colombia's 32 Departments. There are more than 65,000 families dedicated to cocoa cultivation, covering almost 200,000 ha with small-scale environmentally friendly agroforestry production. Colombia is the world's tenth largest cocoa supplier and its unique agroecology produces what the International Cocoa Organization (ICCO) designates as cocoa of "fine aroma", a category that only eight percent of world production achieves.

With these attributes, cocoa production in Colombia makes a positive contribution to the country's rural development and, with more than 40% of recent production substituting illegal crops (primarily coca), it plays a key role in support of the peace process and reintegration of combatants into society. In even more positive news, according to UPRA, there are approximately 4.8 million ha of land suitable for cocoa production in Colombia, which confirms a genuine potential for growth in the sector.

The Cocoa, Forest and Peace (CF&P) initiative promotes zero deforestation cocoa production models. These models protect and restore forest ecosystems within the value chain, and are ideal for securing the agricultural frontier and avoiding additional deforestation. Through improved cocoa production, the CF&P stimulates sustainable livelihoods, strengthening communities and improving social inclusion. Indeed, CF&P has shown that cocoa is a successful vehicle for both social and environmental rewards that will help us achieve the integrated management of strategic global ecosystems.





Closer to home, among the major achievements of the CF&P initiative we find guidelines for better cocoa production and fair contracts for cocoa purchase; the identification of supportive financial instruments for farmers; the development of biodiversity monitoring systems; a zero-deforestation business plan and model; a value-adding market seal of zero-deforestation (the KasCo seal); improved communication and transparency in the supply chain; a successful monitoring, verification and reporting system about to be scaled up; a formal recognition in three Departmental governments; and a significant contribution to the global discussion of the European Union regulatory framework.

We have come a long way, but to secure these gains and to reach our full potential, all CF&P members and allies must focus on promoting a more competitive chain, improving and building new infrastructure, and promoting and updating the exchange of market and processing information. We have to expand to new geographies, and enhance existing developments in monitoring and traceability to be prepared for the implementation of the European Green Pact.

As we say at Alisos, “We cannot work alone. To protect our planet, we must all take action!”. We thank the numerous partners and friends who have helped us all get this far and look forward to working with you all in the future.



**Wendy Arenas Wightman**

Executive Director, Alisos

Cocoa, Forest, and Peace Technical Secretariat.



## Foreword

Since its launch in 2018, the Cocoa Forests and Peace Initiative has contributed to significant advances in cocoa sustainability at regional and national levels within Colombia. It is making strides towards establishing zero-deforestation sourcing landscapes, piloting Colombia's first Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification system and working towards establishing deforestation-free business models and markets, while also promoting cocoa as an agent of land rehabilitation and alternative livelihoods.

As WCF President, I would like to thank all the stakeholders who have contributed to CF&P over the past five years. Collective action is at the heart of the Cocoa & Forests Initiative and the more we are able to collaborate as a sector and exchange lessons from cocoa-producing countries across the world, the more transformative impact we are able to have together.

We look forward to the continued growth of CF&P throughout Colombia and even greater progress across the cocoa supply chain towards zero deforestation, sustainable cocoa production, and the improved well-being of cocoa producers and their communities.



**Chris Vincent**

President

World Cocoa Foundation



## Foreword

Colombia is a country with great potential in cocoa, due to its exceptional quality in flavor and aroma. Its particular value lies in how it contributes to improving the quality of life of Colombian producers. For this reason, this model has successfully motivated the sector to commit to generating a product for the national and international markets that is recognized not only for its quality but also for its environmental, social, and peace attributes.

Colombia's commitment to the sector is evident in its involvement in negotiations such as being the first country in America to sign the Global Cocoa and Forests initiative. This initiative aims to unite the public and private sectors, civil society representatives, and international donors to strengthen the sector and promote the protection of forests and general sustainability and reach 2030 with a more conservationist agricultural model.

As the president of the Steering Committee of the CB&P initiative, we declare that now is the time to act to mitigate the impacts of climate change, and for that, it is crucial to strengthen the global response.



**María del Pilar Gómez López**

Mariana Cocoa Export

Chair CB&P Steering Committee



## Executive Summary

In the Peace Agreement, signed in 2016, cocoa became a key alternative in support of zero-deforestation agriculture, helping to catalyze sustainable rural development and peacebuilding. The CF&P Initiative emerged as a process to disseminate this opportunity as widely as possible. CF&P is a public-private initiative that promotes deforestation-free cocoa production, helping to protect and restore forests in the cocoa value chain, to improve livelihoods for producers, and to consolidate the peace process in Colombia.






In 2017, the World Cocoa Foundation, the Netherlands' Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH), and His Royal Highness's (HRH) International Sustainability Unit launched the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI) with the governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana and 35 cocoa and chocolate manufacturing companies. In 2018, the Government of Colombia, represented by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR), together with the National Federation of Cocoa Producers (Fedecacao), Casa Luker, IDH and WRI (World Resources Institute), with the support of the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), signed on to the CFI as the first country in Latin American. In Colombia, action in support of the CFI is housed under the Cocoa, Forest and Peace (CF&P) initiative.

The CF&P has three implementation periods: first, 2018-2022 (short-term); second, 2023-2025 (medium-term); and third, 2026-2030 (long-term). Governing bodies of the Initiative consist of one Steering Committee represented by five organizations; one Technical Committee (TC) comprising 24 organizations; and the Technical Secretariat run by Alisos. As of 2022, the number of CF&P signatories has increased four-fold from the start of the project and now stands at 24. The signatories comprise four public sector institutions, five private sector organizations, two cocoa producer organizations, eight international non-profits, three Colombian non-profits, and three additional cocoa-related organizations.












The Cacao, Forests & Peace geographical scope of influence is the 170 municipalities that the National Government has identified as the most affected by the armed conflict, poverty, institutional weakness, and the presence of illicit crops. These municipalities are designated as Programas de Desarrollo con Enfoque Territorial (Development Programs with a Territorial Approach (PDET)). As a first step, the CF&P's Technical Committee identified 5 sub-regions where there is high forest coverage and cocoa production. These are: Sur de Bolívar, Alto Córdoba, Bajo Cauca Antioqueño, Nariño and Piedemonte Amazónico.

The first short term product for the CF&P was a 2030 Action Plan, adopted by stakeholders in 2019 and targeted five additional outcomes, as well as 27 short-term deliverables. To create the action plan the Technical Secretariat (TS) collected input from six regions, including more than 17 Municipalities. The engaged more than 250 people in multi-stakeholder dialogues, including the participation of more than 85 farmers and 20 organizations. The Action Plan 2030 is built around five proposed strategic outcomes:

-  Zero-deforestation cocoa production models.
-  Financial instruments that consolidate zero deforestation cocoa models.
-  A monitoring, verification and traceability system.
-  Strengthening cocoa institutions to face the challenges of forests and peace.
-  A communications and transparency strategy.

In addition to developing the long-term Action Plan, during the period 2018-2022 the CF&P initiative made significant short-term progress the outcomes identified in the Action Plan. These are summarized as:

-  Research needs and stakeholders expected to conduct them identified.
-  Cultivation guidelines for zero-deforestation agroforestry systems and others applicable to the purchase of sustainable cocoa have been designed.

-  A pilot for technical support to public-private partnerships for restoration and development of cocoa agroforestry systems developed in Algeciras, Huila.
-  Description and prioritization of financial instruments available through the CpV Program.
-  Analysis available regarding barriers to prioritized instruments to access financial instruments under CpV program.
-  Training plans for access to credit and other financing mechanisms for producers/farms have been built.
-  During technical meetings held in the context of the Initiative, outcomes from the MRV system pilot designed and implemented and the countrywide expansion plan to be pursued in the framework of the CpV Program.
-  The environmental, social, and economic verification of the cocoa chain well advanced in 3 Departments.
-  Local and regional institutions from prioritized subregions and areas are already designated trained. Strengthening opportunities identified in prioritized subregions.
-  Strengthening strategy for institutions and local and regional associations in the territory implemented in the Amazon region under the CpV Program.
-  The Initiative's communications and transparency strategy built.

The first years of implementation have been focused on the consolidation of the CF&P Initiative as a platform for the interaction and creation of partnerships among strategic stakeholders in the Colombian cocoa sector. In some measure, the holistic strengthening of the sector to cover various stages across the cocoa value chain in the country has been achieved. As a result, significant progress has been made in the short-term deliverables under the Action Plan, working together with partners and other specific actors engaged in programs under the Initiative.

The short-term implementation of the CF&P has led to a number of lessons, summarized as:

It is crucial to encourage alliances among adherents in order to design programs for implementing the Action Plan in regions prioritized under the Initiative.

The significance of a smooth communication between adherents and the Technical Secretariat to identify actions helpful in the Agreement implementation in the context of ongoing cocoa-related programs and projects cannot be underestimated.

The importance of promoting continual communication beyond the Technical Committee, so that knowledge is generated and shared as widely as possible.

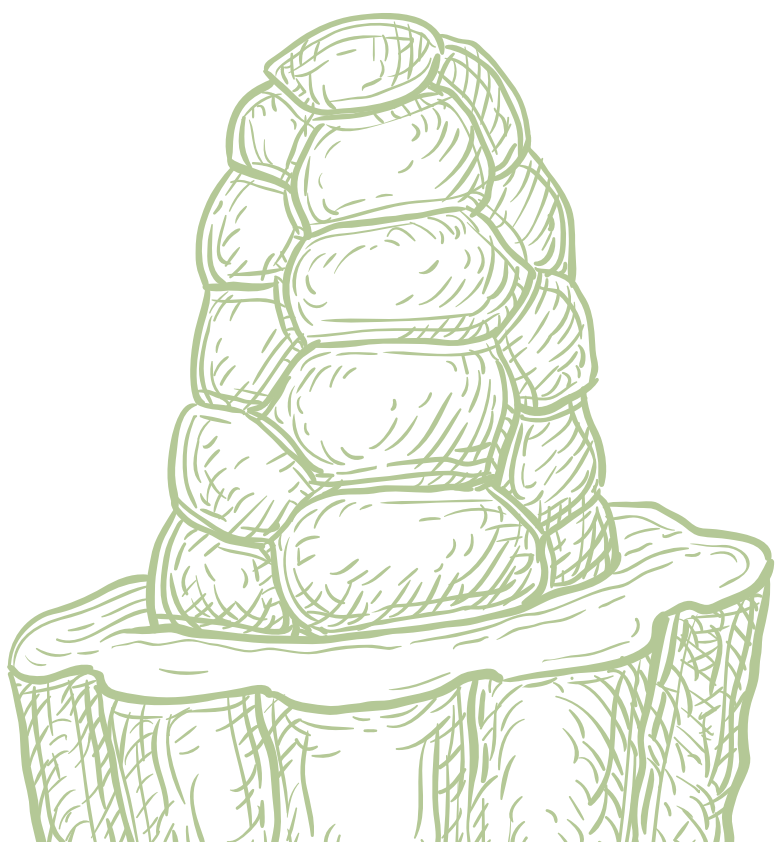
The implementation of the first stage (the short-term) is considered a significant success and we look forward to continuing this work into the next stages.



Photo by: Sofía González - Alisos

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## Acronyms

Accountability Framework Initiative	AFI
Agency for Territorial Renewal	ART
Agroforestry Systems	AFS
Alianzas para la Sostenibilidad	Alisos
Cocoa Agroforestry Systems	CAFS
Cocoa & Forest	C&B
Cocoa, Forests & Peace	CF&P
Cocoa for Life: + Forests in the Amazon	CpV
Colombian Federation of Cocoa Producers	FEDECACAO
Compañía Nacional de Chocolates	CNCH
Food and Land Use Coalition	FOLU
International Center for Tropical Agriculture	CIAT
Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies	IDEAM
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	MADR
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	MADS
Monitoring, Reporting and Verification	MRV
National Environment System	SINA
Non-Governmental Organizations	NGO
Regional Autonomous Corporations	CAR
Rural Agricultural Planning Unit	UPRA
The Nature Conservancy	TNC
The Sustainable Trade Initiative	IDH
Wildlife Conservation Society	WCS
World Resources Institute	WRI
World Wildlife Fund	WWF

## The Cocoa, Forests and Peace Initiative

### Background

In the Peace Agreement, signed in 2016, cocoa became a key alternative in support of zero-deforestation agriculture, helping to catalyze sustainable rural development and peacebuilding. The CF&P Initiative emerged as a process to disseminate this opportunity as widely as possible. CF&P is a public-private initiative that promotes deforestation-free cocoa production, helping to protect and restore forests in the cocoa value chain, to improve livelihoods for producers, and to consolidate the peace process in Colombia.

In 2017, the World Cocoa Foundation, the Netherlands' Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH), and His Royal Highness's (HRH) International Sustainability Unit launched the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI) with the governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana and 35 cocoa and chocolate manufacturing companies. In 2018, the Government of Colombia, represented by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR), together with the National Federation of Cocoa Producers (Fedecacao), Casa Luker, IDH and WRI (World Resources Institute), with the support of the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), signed on to the CFI as the first country in Latin America. In Colombia, action in support of the CFI is housed under the Cocoa, Forest and Peace (CF&P) initiative.

This is the first report of the Cocoa, Forests & Peace Agreement covering investments in during the period of 2018-2022 (defined as the "short-term"). The purpose of the report is to disseminate core deliverables reached under the Agreement, to share implementation challenges and, to offer projections and additional goals for the medium term<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Implementation periods: first, 2018-2022 (short-term); second, 2023-2025 (medium-term); and third, 2026-2030 (long-term).

This report describes the CF&P in more detail, covering aspects of Governance, Geographic Focus and the 2030 Action Plan (adopted by stakeholders in 2019 the AP 2030 targets five additional future outcomes as well as 27 additional deliverables). This report finishes with a description of the progress to date, described by the Outcomes completed in the so-called “short term”, which is the first of three CF&P planned phases.



Photo by: Uma Nielsen - Alisos

## **Governance**

Governing bodies of the Initiative consist of one Steering Committee represented by five organizations; one Technical Committee (TC) comprising 24 organizations; and the Technical Secretariat run by Alisos.

To be part of the Agreement one sends a formal request to the Technical Secretariat, which is then evaluated in the Technical Committee and the receives eventual approval or dismissal by the Steering Committee. Any communication with potential members is now available to be done virtually.

During 2020, the Technical Committee set-up five (5) Technical Working Groups (TWGs), each responsible for addressing one of the five outcomes targeted by CF&P. Participants in the TWGs received significant support from the Technical Secretariat and these meetings served to outline and implement the Agreement indicators and Outcomes, and then became the kick-off point for the medium-term strategy (2022-2026).

In 2022, the governance structure was adapted away from dividing members into the 5 outcomes to new committees that focused on their area of greatest influence. As a result, the finance, communications, and public policy advocacy committees were created. Participant lists for each committee are listed in the Annex 5 at the end of the report. Figure 1 below, demonstrates the organogram for the project execution from 2019 - 2021, and Figure 2 the one adopted in 2022.

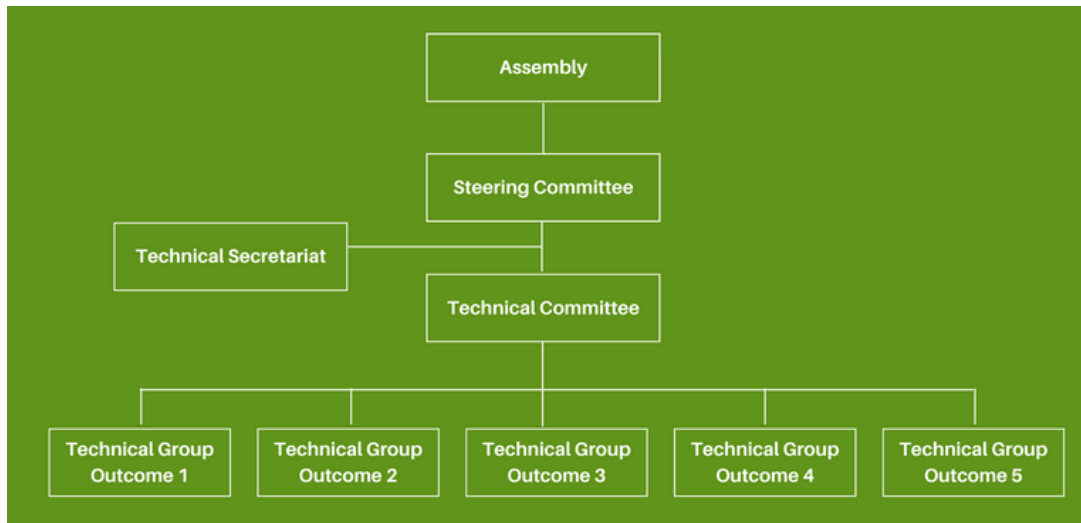


Figure 1. CF&P Organogram 2019 - 2021

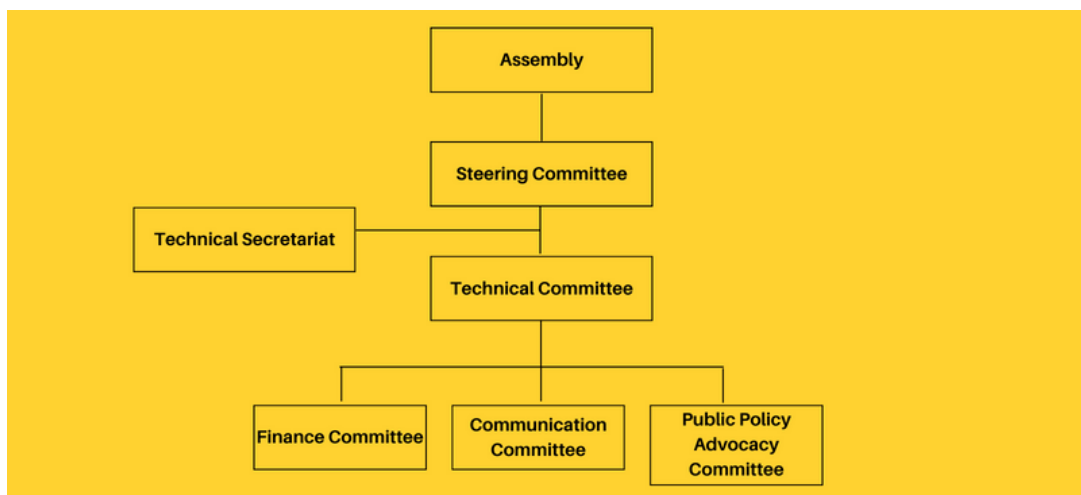


Figure 2. CF&P Organogram 2022

As of 2022, the number of CF&P signatories has increased four-fold from the start of the project and now stands at 24. The signatories comprise four public sector institutions, five private sector organizations, two cocoa producer organizations, eight international non-profits, three Colombian non-profits, and three additional cocoa-related organizations.



## Geographic Scope

The Cacao, Forests & Peace geographical scope of influence is the 170 municipalities that the National Government has identified as the most affected by the armed conflict, poverty, institutional weakness, and the presence of illicit crops. These municipalities are designated as Programas de Desarrollo con Enfoque Territorial (Development Programs with a Territorial Approach (PDET)). As a first step, the CF&P's Technical Committee identified 5 sub-regions where there is high forest coverage and cocoa production. These are: Sur de Bolívar, Alto Córdoba, Bajo Cauca Antioqueño, Nariño and Piedemonte Amazónico, which are shown in the following map:

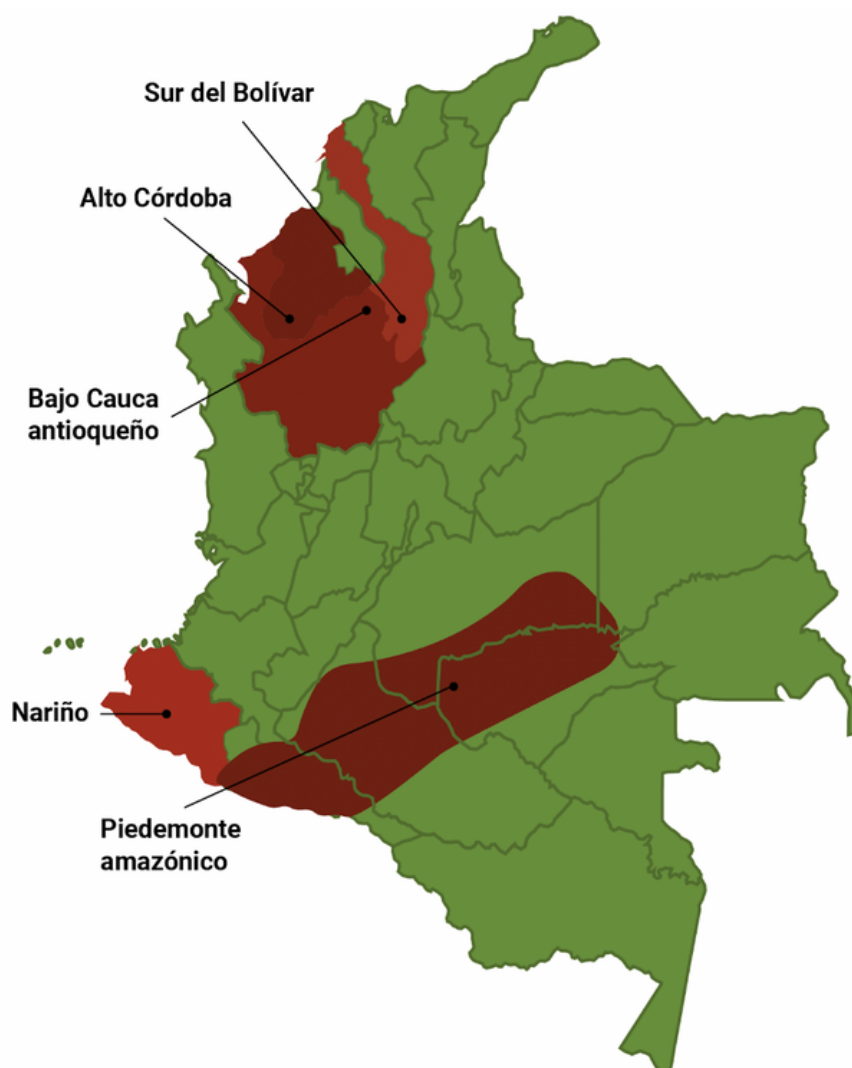


Figure 3. CF&P Priority ecosystems and geographies

This broad identification was then used to determine the priority geography for the short-term period (2018-2022). The TC then selected the Amazon piedmont because of the high deforestation rate, ecological value, and its potential role in the peace process. Subsequently, areas were identified as priority for the “medium -term” activities, which include the Sierra Nevada, Catatumbo and Narino. These areas are identified in the Figure below, showing current CF&P geographical investment and actions, as well as project areas of influence for the medium term.

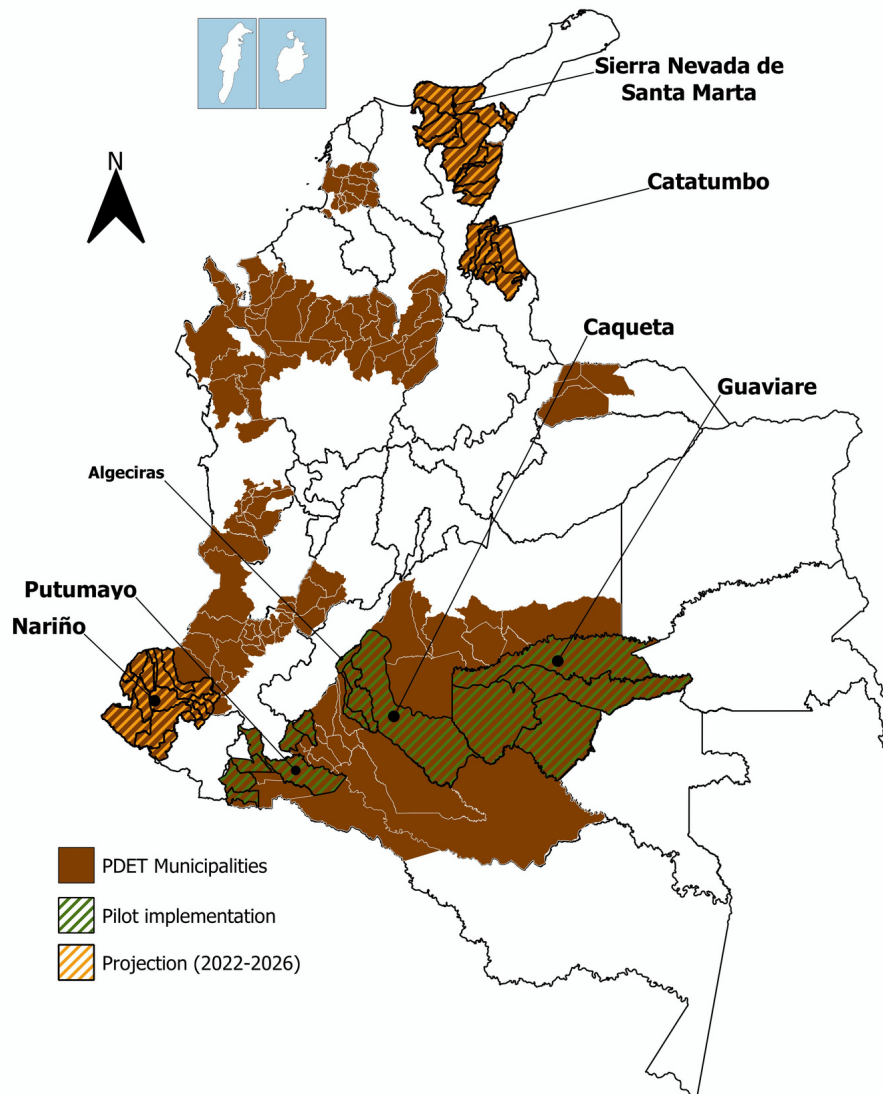


Figure 4. CF&P Investment and implementation regions

## Action Plan 2030

The CF&P 2030 Action Plan was adopted by stakeholders in 2019<sup>2</sup> and targeted five additional outcomes, as well as 27 short-term deliverables<sup>3</sup>. To create the action plan the Technical Secretariat (TS) collected input from six regions, including more than 17 Municipalities. The engaged more than 250 people in multi-stakeholder dialogues, including the participation of more than 85 farmers and 20 organizations.

Figure 1 below describes the current and proposed action timeline for the CF&P from 2016 to 2030 that has been developed as part of the Action Plan 2030, and which are then described in detail in the following section.



Figure 5. CF&P action timeline from 2016 to 2030

The Action Plan 2030 is built around **five proposed strategic outcomes**:

**Outcome 1: Zero-deforestation cocoa production models** This outcome seeks to develop a model of regional public-private partnerships for the technical training, a research agenda developed to guarantee better cocoa productivity in agroforestry arrangements, guidelines for

<sup>2</sup> Refer to Annex 2 to see the CF&P 2030 Action Plan.

<sup>3</sup> The Action Plan relied on financial support from WRI and technical support from CIAT for the Baseline study.

planting, and streamlined zero-deforestation cocoa markets adopted by the industry.

### **Outcome 2: Financial instruments that consolidate zero deforestation cocoa models**

The financial instruments must incorporate sustainability criteria and respond to the new economic and rural reality of the country and to the climatic and environmental conditions. The second outcome aims to promote and appropriate financial instruments that consolidate zero deforestation cocoa models and include innovative investment strategies for the cocoa sector. Emphasis is also placed on training and reducing barrier to access financial instruments to improve inclusion and subsequently rural livelihoods.

### **Outcome 3: A Monitoring, Verification and Traceability System**

The Initiative will have a monitoring system that tracks positive impacts through the a system of alerts, and the measurement of the Initiative's impacts. In addition, the system will verify progress in compliance with agreements and document zero deforestation cocoa production within the Initiative's projects. The System will be developed in coordination with the Strategy against Cadmium promoted by the National Government. To support this process, producers, associations, industry, and other entities as trained information providers.

### **Outcome 4: Strengthening cocoa institutions to face the challenges of forests and peace**

This outcome will implement a strategy to strengthen cocoa institutions with an emphasis on zero-deforestation cocoa production models that integrate the conservation, management and restoration of forest and water resources at a landscape scale, with particular focus on the reintegration of ex-combatants into society. The strategy will consolidate a reliable and transparent traceability scheme implemented for accountability. We will Strengthening strategy for local and regional associative organizations, CARs and SINA Institutes to strengthen cocoa agroforestry alternatives, as well as improving the ability of the National Cacao Council to act on issues related to cocoa, forests and peace. Thus, in 10 years, we will achieve a strengthened cocoa value chain

at all levels with ownership of the topics related to the Initiative.

**Outcome 5: Communications and transparency strategy.** The fifth outcome of the Action Plan is a strategy focused on positioning Colombian cocoa into specialty markets and creating additional value through quality and value adding co-benefits such as fine aroma characteristics, cocoa associated with zero-deforestation seals, and biodiversity protection offsets, among others. The repositioning of Colombian cocoa in these market spaces will be supported by the Monitoring and Traceability System. Together these outcomes will deliver a communication and transparency strategy that positions Colombian cocoa competitively in specialty markets and secures additional value-added options, which will be complemented by a reliable and transparent traceability scheme implemented for accountability



Photo by: Sofía González - Alisos

## CF&P Short Term (ST) Outcomes Report

### Outcome ST1: Improved production models

**Implemented zero-deforestation cocoa production models encompassing forest conservation and restoration and water resource management at landscape scales, supported by regional public-private partnerships.**

This outcome seeks to develop by 2030 a model of public-private territorial alliances for the technical accompaniment of producers, a research agenda developed to guarantee better cocoa productivity in agroforestry arrangements, guidelines for planting and buying cocoa with zero deforestation adopted by the industry.

*“Guidelines for zero-deforestation cocoa agroforestry systems to support forest conservation in the Colombian Amazon”* Silvia J. Alvarez. Wildlife Conservation Society Colombia.

The Amazon region is home to the largest continuous forests in Colombia. However, in the last decade, and especially after signing the Peace Agreement with FARC, deforestation has been rapidly advancing, due mostly to land grabbing, cattle ranching, unplanned infrastructure, and illicit crops<sup>4</sup>. Cocoa agroforestry systems (CAFS) represent a potential strategy for restoration of forest functions and ecosystem services, while replacing illicit crops and unproductive agricultural systems, and diversifying income sources for smallholders in the Amazon region. As part of the program Cocoa for Life: +Forests program in the Amazon, we developed guidelines for CAFS in a participatory process with cocoa farmers from Guaviare, Caquetá, and Putumayo in Colombia<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> IDEAM 2020. Outcomes from deforestation monitoring – 1. Year 2020. 2. Year 2021, first quarter. [http://www.ideam.gov.co/documents/10182/113437783/Presentacion\\_Deforestacion2020\\_SMBByC-IDEAM.pdf](http://www.ideam.gov.co/documents/10182/113437783/Presentacion_Deforestacion2020_SMBByC-IDEAM.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Rodriguez N, Torres S, Alvarez SJ. 2022. Lineamientos para el establecimiento de sistemas agroforestales para la conservación de bosques en la Amazonía. Cocoa for Life: +Forests in the Amazon. WCS Colombia.

The first guideline seeks to end deforestation of Amazon forests in cocoa farms. This will bring positive environmental impacts and provide producers the opportunity to access European and other markets demanding deforestation free commodities.<sup>6</sup> Even the national market, given the agreement by the largest Colombian companies through the Cocoa, Forest and Peace Initiative, is supporting the development of a zero-deforestation value chain. Although cocoa is, in most cases, not a deforestation driver in the Amazon, actual drivers like cattle and illicit crops occupy most of the productive area in cocoa farms. Thus, CAFS can help reverse the deforestation trend in the Amazon, by providing an alternative income source based on a more efficient land use than cattle. Deforestation is also threatening biodiversity in the Amazon. Habitat loss and fragmentation by deforestation is forcing species to occupy less suitable and isolated habitat or transformed areas, which puts their long-term survival at risk.<sup>7</sup>

The second guideline establishes that CAFS can support biodiversity conservation by providing a habitat to some species and increasing forest connectivity. To achieve this goal, landscape and farm-level plans for new CAFS need to incorporate biodiversity criteria, include more complex agroforestry systems with native palms and fruit trees, and be implemented in former agricultural areas now depleted of secondary vegetation.

Farm planning is a key process for producers and their families to improve sustainability. The third guideline states CAFS is based on farm plans developed with the participation of all family members, and which include strategies for improving productivity, income, food security, and the sustainable management of natural resources. The tree species planted in association with cocoa in the CAFS depends on the family socio-environmental context and goals, so no single formula is promoted. Nevertheless, because the high humidity of the Amazon challenges the

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<sup>6</sup> Halleux V. 2022. Towards deforestation-free commodities and products in the EU. EU Legislation in Development Briefing.

<sup>7</sup> Semper-Pascual A, Decarre J, Baumann M, Busso JM, Camino M, Gómez-Valencia B, Kuemmerle T. 2019. Biodiversity loss in deforestation frontiers: Linking occupancy modelling and physiological stress indicators to understand local extinctions. *Biological Conservation* 236: 281-288.

control of diseases caused by fungi, like witches' broom and frosty pod rot, a list of trees with traits that reduce shade effects was included in the guidelines<sup>8</sup>.

A final guideline refers to forest restoration in cocoa farms through CAFS. Although CAFS do not constitute or replace natural forests, they can provide multiple functions that support some of the ecosystem services provided by forests. CAFS improve soil quality, regulate water yield, control erosion, provide habitat for species, provide food, and generate non-timber products to support the family economy. More complex agroforestry systems promote a greater diversity of ecosystem services, on which the family, the community, and their productive systems depend. Because of their potential to recover ecosystem functionality, CAFS are recommended for degraded areas that were previously in monocrop agriculture.

The ecological, economic, and social benefits associated to CAFS in the Amazon vary depending on the intensity, management and history of soil use, agricultural practices, and the composition and complexity of the system, all of which also depend on the resources, motivation, and objectives of the cocoa producer<sup>9</sup>. For the Amazon, CAFS represent an effective way of avoiding further deforestation and helping recover degraded areas while improving rural livelihoods.

## Development










Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>1.1</b> By 2020, identification of research needs to increase and enhance productivity and quality for projects selected under the CF&amp;P Initiative.</p>	<p>Research needs and stakeholders expected to conduct them were identified.</p>

<sup>8</sup> Rodriguez N, Torres S, Alvarez S.J. 2022. Lineamientos para el establecimiento de sistemas agroforestales para la conservación de bosques en la Amazonía. Cocoa for Life: +Forests in the Amazon. WCS Colombia.

<sup>9</sup> Montagnini F. (ed.) 2017. Integrating Landscapes: Agroforestry for Biodiversity, Conservation and Food Sovereignty, Advances in Agroforestry 12.



During the reporting period, 10 core research needs were identified to facilitate the adoption of zero-deforestation cocoa production models appropriate to encompass forest conservation and restoration and water resource management at a landscape scale. Some of the issues mapped include, but are not limited to:

-  Cocoa supply chain
-  Sustainable practices and technologies
-  Cocoa agroforestry systems targeting long-term goals.
-  Cocoa Agroforestry Systems (CAFS)
-  Monitoring biodiversity and provision of ecosystem services
-  Management of major diseases
-  Genetic potentialities of native cocoa, genetic improvement, and cadmium content
-  Adjustment of technological supply according to ecological supply and climatic variation
-  Uses of cocoa for the pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, and cosmetic industries

In addition, 37 key stakeholders involved in the cocoa value chain who were willing to support research activities were identified. Most were from public entities, international cooperation and non-governmental organizations, academia, and the private sector. The stakeholders all engaged in the development of proposals and suggestions for short-, medium-, and long-term research for the design of a national strategy for the cocoa chain by the National Cocoa Council.

As a result, during 2022 TFA developed a cocoa Pitchbook for the cocoa supply chain, covering sustainable practices and technologies, cocoa agroforestry systems and provision of ecosystem services. CIAT also developed research related to cocoa ecosystem services, scalability, mitigation of climate change, and its contributions to the peace process. And Etnollano produced papers on wild cocoa, heavy metals in cocoa grown in flood zones, and cocoa's contributions to the forest.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>1.2.1</b> By 2020, design of cultivation guidelines for zero-deforestation agroforestry systems.</p>	<p>Cultivation guidelines for zero-deforestation agroforestry systems and others applicable to the purchase of sustainable cocoa have been designed.</p>
<p><b>1.2.2.</b> By 2020, design of guidelines for purchasing sustainable cocoa.</p>	

The MADS prepared a report on cultivation guidelines for zero-deforestation agroforestry systems and others applicable to the purchase of sustainable cocoa. Currently the industry is revising the guidelines to incorporate them into company policies. The CIAT-Bioversity International Alliance and the Inter-American Development Bank, through the Joint Declaration of Intent (Norway, Germany, United Kingdom, and Colombia), funded the consultancy which led to the document developed by MADS, setting forth guidelines for cultivating and purchasing sustainable cocoa in the framework of the Cocoa, Forests & Peace Agreement. This partnership identified tools for Deforestation Monitoring and Verification, as well as cocoa traceability. Indeed, one of the Initiative's goals is that signatory businesses demonstrate that their respective supply chains be deforestation-free by year 2025 and, that no less than 50% will rely on traceability programs by that time. In summary, the document addresses the following four components:

1. Criteria for cultivating zero-deforestation cocoa (for both producers and businesses),
2. Deforestation monitoring, reporting and verification system (MRV) (to be implemented by businesses and IDEAM (Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies),
3. Purchasing zero-deforestation cocoa (required by the industry),
4. Future traceability across the cocoa chain (every stakeholder).

The Cocoa for Life program has also developed guidelines for planting zero deforestation CAFS that have been disseminated and discussed in focal Departments in the Amazon.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>1.3.</b> By 2021, formulation of directives for ecologic and productive landscape restoration with cocoa agroforestry systems, focused on territories and peace for PDETs prioritized under the CF&amp;P Initiative.</p>	<p>Directives for ecologic and productive landscape restoration with cocoa agroforestry systems were developed for one of the prioritized regions.</p>

Under the program Cocoa for Life: +Forests in the Amazon<sup>10</sup> (CpV) directives for agroforestry systems in the region were reviewed. Based this information, core guidelines were defined for cultivation and improvement of agroforestry systems, thus contributing to forest restoration and zero-deforestation in the Amazon. Alisos, Rainforest Alliance and WCS, together with UK Pact and GIZ Colombia have supported and implemented the CpV Program. The Program objectives include development of restoration plans and connectivity enhancement by adopting cocoa-based agroforestry systems. During the first year of implementation, WCS led the formulation of guidelines for cultivating and enhancing CAFS and created prioritization maps showing suitable cultivation areas, taking into account soil suitability, deforestation and connectivity. These such guidelines come from a secondary review and in-situ collection of information in the Amazon region, and so must be validated with the CF&P Technical Committee. During 2022 WCS developed ecological restoration plans with three associations in Caquetá and Putumayo.

<sup>10</sup> Cocoa for Life: +Forests in the Amazon is a program aimed at implementing the CF&P action plan in one of the territories prioritized under the Initiative: the Amazon region. The program is being implemented in the departments of Caquetá, Guaviare and Putumayo and one of its goals is to foster a resilient, transparent and deforestation-free cocoa value chain, suitable to restore landscapes and ensure sustainable livelihood for small farmers in the region.

In addition, GIZ Colombia, in the Jaguar Friendly certification pilot project, developed a strategy to strengthen and increase the area under sustainable models for the cocoa production and marketing chain, so that it can contribute to the conservation of key species and increase the area under conservation measures in Caquetá. With a similar goal, WWF signed conservation agreements with 84 cocoa producers from Caquetá.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>1.4.1.</b> By 2021, inclusion by the industry of guidelines for planting under zero-deforestation agroforestry systems.</p>	<p>No progress made on this deliverable by 2022.</p>
<p><b>1.4.2.</b> By 2021, inclusion by the industry of guidelines for purchasing sustainable cocoa.</p>	

Currently, guidelines are being revised by the private sector to incorporate them in their company policy. The Technical Secretariat is following up these processes together with the industry representatives of the Initiative.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>1.5.</b> By 2022, adoption of a template of public-private alliances to ensure technical support on crop renovation issues, centered on restoration and forest handling.</p>	<p>A master pilot for technical support to public-private alliances for restoration and development of cocoa agroforestry systems was developed in Algeciras, Huila.</p>

During 2021 and 2022, Efecto Cacao funded and implemented by IDH, Fundación Luker, Luker Chocolate and EAFIT, made progress in developing a master pilot for technical support to public-private alliances for restoration and development of cocoa agroforestry systems in Algeciras, Huila, one of the priority municipalities for the CF&P Initiative. Although this activity is currently underway and as yet unfinished it showed significant progress during 2021. The actions listed below were completed in the framework of the *Efecto Cacao* program<sup>11</sup>: (i) cocoa sales by USD 440,573 equivalent to COP 1,189,548,717 between April and June 2022; (ii) two rural extension workers trained on Luker Chocolate's technical methodology to support operation of the concerned public-private alliance; (iii) 1,546 extension visits to farms of cocoa farmers' associates; and (iv) purchase and delivery of more than 975 fertilizer sacks for cocoa cultivation.

Moreover, 200 cocoa hectares were restored, and four cocoa farmers associations received training to enhance administrative, financial and technical procedures (e.g., governance duties, collection strategies, statutory reforms, transparency, financial advisory, among others). Sixty six people were trained in entrepreneurship with a gender focus, and 177 young people enrolled in programs for the development of the workforce in Necoclí, and 99 in Tumaco.

In Caquetá, Mariana Cocoa, SENA and Fedecacao, financed by GIZ Colombia, advanced a process of technical assistance to 400 producers in 6 associations where training is provided on the incorporation of guidelines for planting and purchasing cocoa in agroforestry systems.

Finally, under the CpV program, 98 farmers were informed about the state of resilience in their territory and 50 farmers were trained in sustainable and resilient cocoa agroforestry production models.

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<sup>11</sup> The Cocoa Effect - Huila extension in the municipalities of Hobo and Algeciras, began its execution in November 2020. This initiative, financed by IDH, LUKER Foundation, LUKER Chocolate and EAFIT, seeks to improve the living conditions of cocoa producers through the implementation of good practices in crops, while protecting the forests and ecosystems that surround the crops and that help landscape connectivity.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>1.6.</b> By 2022, there will be zero deforestation cocoa principles that promote the conservation, restoration and management of forests and water resources for cocoa development in the country.</p>	<p>No progress made on this deliverable by 2022.</p>

## Challenges and Mitigation Actions for Outcome 1

The main challenge of milestone 1.5 is the transformation of business policies and the incorporation of new management and monitoring schemes within the private sector, so that they apply the guidelines for planting and purchasing sustainable cocoa. This implies making structural changes within their companies, which have bureaucratic processes, as well as possible risk to their commercial activity. For this purpose, a monitoring and evaluation scheme will be carried out to determine how the adoption of the guidelines is being addressed in the purchase and planting policies of the companies, especially in the design of new areas and rehabilitation projects.

The use of CAFS as a forest restoration tool requires an adequate diverse and dispersed supply of native plants. Native species contribute to local biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as diversifying the economic returns to rural households and reduced risk. Therefore and important investment must be made in widespread community run nurseries throughout the region.

Most guidelines on CAFS are through a farm-level lens without referring to integrated landscapes. Ecosystem restoration, however, to which such systems contribute, are deeply dependent on the overall landscape in order to be resilient. Therefore the connection between farm level practices and

the overall landscape should not be overlooked when designing plots and specific systems. Actions for strengthening the sector's key stakeholders' planning and knowledge skills *vis-à-vis* conservation areas, strategic ecosystems, and ecosystem services have been identified to mitigate this challenge at a landscape scale. Although CAFS are not forests *per se*, they can deliver certain useful ecosystem services at landscape scale. They can serve a complementary action to full forest protection, but should not substitute that investment.



Photo by: Uma Nielsen - Alisos

## Outcome ST2: Engaged financial instruments

**Promotion and use of financial instruments focused on zero-deforestation cocoa production models, encompassing conservation and restoration of forests and water resource management at a landscape scale, based on regional public-private partnerships.**

Financial instruments must be designed to respond to the new economic, social and environmental reality of rural Colombia and to its climatic and environmental conditions. The second outcome promotes appropriate financial instruments that consolidate zero deforestation cocoa models and include innovative investment strategies for the cocoa sector, with an emphasis on social inclusion and improving rural livelihoods.

*“Financial instruments: required elements to consolidate zero-deforestation cocoa production models”* Manuelita Montaña. Climate Focus.

The transition towards a sustainable CAFS business model requires investments, for which many farmers have insufficient funds. In Colombia, farmers many small scale farmers encounter almost insurmountable barriers to access credit. Such barriers to access are greater for women and youth, which are groups that have significant potential to contribute to the development of zero-deforestation business models. Therefore, easily accessible and beneficial financial instruments for farmers are needed to facilitate this process. Access to appropriately designed financial resources, will have a positive impact on farming productivity and reduce the level of poverty in rural households. In 2019, only 23.4% of the adults in rural areas had access to credit.











Outcome 2 promotes the development of financial instruments focused on zero-deforestation cocoa production models. This is achieved through six sub-deliverables. CF&P Initiative’s target in terms of financial instruments is ambitious and includes an outline of existing instruments, the inclusion of sustainability criteria in credit facilities, training for access to credit and monitoring, traceability, and technical assistance to producers and producer organizations. CF&P’s Cocoa for Life Program (CpV) has been a key tool in advancing appropriate financial instruments and its implementation has led to lessons learned that were applied to Outcome 2. Furthermore, achievement of this Outcome will be grounded on the work pursued in other sectors, such as the livestock, to identify sustainability criteria that help obtain credit and overcome barriers to access.

Indeed, the financial sector is increasingly aware of sustainability criteria and can become a willing partner in supporting widespread access . For instance, the Finance Superintendency recently published the document *Taxonomía Verde* (Green Catalogue) providing incentives for granting rural credit, subject to environmental considerations. Private banks have also designed green-credit facilities that are likely to become financing instruments within the framework of the CF&P.



Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>2.1</b> By 2020, description and prioritization of financial instruments under the business model identified by the Outcome 1 Technical Group.</p>	<p>Description and prioritization of financial instruments available through the CpV Program.</p>

During May and June 2021, credit facilities and incentives targeted to agriculture sustainable production were engaged to fund certain aspects of zero-deforestation cocoa production. Instruments offered at domestic level were identified and barriers to access analyzed, particularly in the Departments of Guaviare, Caqueta and Putumayo. A total of ten instruments associated to conditional and soft loans were identified, in addition to eight types of incentives tackling issues such as insurance, interactions with purchasers and programs to compensate environmental services. The following list is a partial recounting of the potential credit lines available to farmers implanting CAFS:

-  Special Credit Facility (LEC, its acronym in Spanish) for Agriculture Sustainability and Green Business.
-  LEC A toda máquina e infraestructura sostenible;
-  LEC Agricultura por contrato;
-  Fund for Agriculture Promotion.
-  Fund for Agriculture Solidarity (FONSA).
-  National Program for Agriculture Reactivation (PRAN).
-  Project in Support of Production Alliances (PAAP).
-  Incentive for Agriculture Insurance.
-  Incentive for Rural Capitalization (ICR).
-  Green Financial Instrument (IFV) Amazon Vision.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>2.2</b> By 2021, analysis of barriers affecting prioritized instruments held by funders and other financial instruments for loan-granting and to promote environmentally sustainable cocoa production, as well as proposals designed to overcome such barriers.</p>	<p>Analysis available regarding barriers to prioritized instruments to access financial instruments under CpV program.</p>

Two cocoa farmers associations in Putumayo were identified for the pilot that would demonstrate improved access to financial instruments: Musu Pakarii from Puerto Guzmán and Asoprocao from Orito. In Putumayo, five prospective instruments were identified to fund certain modalities of cocoa agroforestry: the Special Credit Facility (LEC) for Agriculture Sustainability and Green Business; the LEC A Toda Máquina e Infraestructura Sostenible; the LEC Agricultura por Contrato; the Green Financial Incentive; and the Amazon Forestry Incentive. During the process of identifying credit options, however, it became clear that there remain considerable barriers for Colombian Producer Associations to access financial instruments.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>2.3.</b> By 2021, preparation of a template for inclusion of sustainability criteria in existing financial instruments, focused on sustainable production, transformation, conservation, reconversion and restoration.</p>	<p>No progress made on this deliverable by 2022.</p>

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>2.4.</b> By 2021, preparation of a template for public-private alliances to invest in the Initiative's designed and approved projects.</p>	<p>No progress made on this deliverable by 2022.</p>

Deliverable	Milestone
<p><b>2.5.</b> By 2021, building training plans for access to credit and other financing mechanisms for producers/farms under the Initiative.</p>	<p>Training plans for access to credit and other financing mechanisms for producers/farms have been built.</p>

As part of the CpV program, WCS initiated a plan with 8 associations in the Colombian Amazon to overcome barriers to access financial instruments. Currently, 50 producers have been trained in business models and sustainable financial strategies for cocoa.

The Luker Foundation built a financial education program called "Add for the Future"<sup>12</sup> in which it certified 57 cocoa producers from Uraba improved their understanding of how to manage their financial resources. Fundación Ecosocial also built a financial education course for producers; its first cohort will be trained during 2023.

<sup>12</sup> Original name in Spanish: "Sumar para el futuro".

Deliverable	Milestone
<p><b>2.6.</b> By 2022 there will be a monitoring, traceability and follow-up scheme for the credits and financial instruments promoted by the Initiative.(Credit traceability).</p>	<p>No progress made on this deliverable by 2022.</p>

## Challenges and Mitigation Actions for Outcome 2

Three primary challenges were found in connection to Outcome 2. First, the question of whether CAFS present universal profitability. It is unclear that all producers should undertake cocoa production activities comprehensively, especially if they require access to additional lines of credit, which can entails significant personal and productive risk. Coupled with lack of clarity in land tenure, this uncertainty may adversely impact the possible bottom line for producers. Secondly, although producer associations have encouraged *de facto* commercialization models, the existence of growth or business expansion strategies appropriate to assume funding commitments, other than donations, is unclear. The third challenge refers to the actual definition of agroforestry models. Agroforestry and business models have not been completed during the pilot implementation and, therefore, the financing profile remains uncertain. It is vital that these models be carefully analyzed before widespread dissemination, and particular attention is needed to ensure that they fit the individual nature of the regions and of the individual farms.

As a mitigation measure, key actors should be supported in developing their ability in planning and knowledge of conservation areas and strategic ecosystems and ecosystem services so they can incorporate them into new and appropriate programs. Also, although CAFS are not natural forests, they improve the supply of some ecosystem services in a landscape. Therefore, complex forest arrangements with greater diversity of species and structure must be promoted within CAFS where possible as a complement to the integral protection of native forest, on which the productive systems also depend.



Photo by: Sofia González - Alisos

## Outcome ST3: An MRV System

**An operational monitoring, verification and traceability system that is coupled with the National Cocoa Chain Strategy (Chapter No. 1 - Safety) developed and disseminated with particular emphasis on forests, environmental services, social inclusion, and economic development.**

The Initiative is developing a monitoring system that calculates positive impacts, the generation of alerts, and the measurement of the Initiative's efforts. In addition, the system will verify progress in compliance with agreements and document zero deforestation cocoa production for the Initiative's projects. The System is aligned with the Strategy against Cadmium promoted by the National Government and will be implemented in the territories prioritized by the Initiative.

*"Pilot of the MRV System: Cacao Muy Rico y Valioso".* Nicolás Mendoza.  
Rainforest Alliance

The market of zero-deforestation speciality cocoa is evolving rapidly in response to the need of mitigating climate change and the Traceability and Transparency System, developed through inter-institutional interaction led by Cocoa, Forests & Peace Initiative is a fundamental piece of the puzzle in accessing wider markets. In March 2021, the Program Cocoa for Life: +Forests in the Amazon through implementing partner Rainforest Alliance, ran a pilot for the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification system (MRV), in Guaviare, which collected data and analyzed social, environmental, production and governance indicators across regional value chains, thus facilitating traceability to the farm level and demonstrating producers committed to forest and biodiversity protection.









The methodology included strengthening the skills of producers while pursuing capacity-building among associations in handling information and new technology. To overcome the widely dispersed farms, the pilot created clusters for farm description and training activities, thereby facilitating access and involvement of far-flung and often-ignored communities. The farm description required visits to 152 farms for data collection and georeferentiation. This effort covered 6,886 hectares, 462 of which cultivated with cocoa, for an average of 3 hectares per farm. This survey identified that women own 37 plots (24%) and 77 farms are subject to conservation agreements (51%). Training included socialization with communities and 16 measurement (Module I) and reporting (Module II) workshops, attended by 221 individuals. During these workshops, communities selected 20 community leaders who received additional training in the Verification component (Module III) and were integrated into the Guaviare MRV Committee, currently preparing an internal deforestation audit.

Two technological applications were selected to facilitate information handling: *Galapp* to capture farm-level data, and *Analytics* for information analysis. In parallel, there was an organizational diagnosis by the Guaviare Department cocoa producers association (ASOPROCACAO) and the design of an action plan for capacity-building in information management, creation of datasheets and handling zero-deforestation cocoa inventories.

The aforementioned methodology and other lessons drawn ended the pilot stage of the MRV system and triggered the expansion stage to Caquetá and Putumayo. It is now essential to strengthen interactions with stakeholders across the chain, both at regional and country level, so that information and lessons learned from the Amazon are integrated to the National Traceability and Transparency System.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>3.1.</b> By 2020, there is in place a design and approval of the Initiative's indicators to verify progress made in the compliance with agreements and targets.</p>	<p>The initiative indicators have been designed and tested in a pilot.</p>

During working roundtables held in 2020, the Colombia Director of Rainforest Alliance put forward the most relevant features of the Accountability Framework Initiative (AFI) and the experience of its implementation in Colombia. Based on this, the following indicators were proposed for the MRV system:

-  Percentage of natural area in the village.
-  Percentage of threatened ecosystems.
-  Connectivity of forest patches through cocoa nodes.
-  Percentage of cocoa in agroforestry systems.
-  Total area to implement restoration processes in natural ecosystems.
-  Landscape productivity.
-  Landscape production.
-  Carbon trace in the production network.

Based on these, a matrix of indicators was built for the MRV system, with a pilot implemented in nine priority zones of Guaviare between April and December 2021. Lessons drawn in this exercise will contribute to consolidate a standard monitoring system at country level.



Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>3.2.</b> By 2020, building a liaison between the Initiative's monitoring, verification and traceability system and the National Cocoa Chain Strategy (Chapter No. 1 - Safety)</p>	<p>During technical meetings held in the context of the Initiative, outcomes from the MRV system pilot were disclosed, as well as the countrywide expansion plan to be pursued in the framework of the CpV Program.</p>

To foster a liaison among components of the National Cocoa Chain Strategy, the CF&P Initiative disseminated periodic progress reports made during the pilot with lessons learned, which should serve as benchmark to replicate its implementation elsewhere in the country. Also, CF&P has contributed in the design of what could be a general MRV system that includes several commodities, this initiative is conducted by the Tropical Forest Alliance (TFA) and the Colombian Government.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>3.3.</b> By 2021, adoption of guidelines for the monitoring, verification, and traceability system.</p>	<p>Guidelines were defined for the monitoring, verification, and traceability system, based on the MRV system pilot under the CpV Program.</p>

During 2021, the MRV system's indicators were defined at social, production, environmental and governance level, thus enabling CpV to follow-up on cocoa perspectives in various landscapes of the country. In this manner, traceability was consolidated as the core pillar of the zero-deforestation cocoa business model to be submitted and approved in 2023, in order to encourage adoption by key stakeholders across supply chain.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>3.4.</b> By 2021, building a social, economic, production and environmental baseline of links with cocoa, forests, and peace. (Grounded on a CIAT study).</p>	<p>The social, economic, production and environmental baseline of links with cocoa, forests and peace is already built.</p>

The national government, through ART, contributed with the social, economic, production and environmental baselines for municipalities prioritized under the Initiative. CIAT contributed the forest baseline in cocoa regions. Likewise, during 2021 the information available on the current cocoa chain in Guaviare, was reviewed and updated under the CpV Program.

ART considers the development potential of subregions to be a priority under the Peace Agreement from economic, social, and environmental standpoints. The CIAT study identified potential capabilities in incumbent municipalities, in view of defining the potential of land use change in the subregion, while boosting sustainable development in support of peacebuilding and stabilization<sup>13</sup>. The CIAT baseline study contributed to the analysis of links between cocoa, forests and the Colombian conflict.

Taking the CIAT study as starting point, the CpV Program compiled information available in a database of bibliographical references and then contrasted with data collected in-situ among 152 farms and the cocoa producers' association that made part of the MRV pilot. The exercise showed several discrepancies between official information and figures generated by stakeholders in the pilot.

Accordingly, description visits were conducted in each farm involved in the pilot to gather social, environmental, production and governance

<sup>13</sup> Agency for Territorial Renewal (ART), 2020.

information for subsequent analysis to build an up-to-date baseline.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>3.5.</b> By 2022, a pilot of the model for training producers and associations as providers of adequate information for the Initiative's monitoring, evaluation and traceability system will be in place.</p>	<p>The pilot of the model for training producers and associations as providers of adequate information for the Initiative's monitoring was done in Guaviare during 2021.</p>

As part of the CpV program Rainforest Alliance trained 150 producers in the pilot phase to use the monitoring, registration and verification system in Guaviare. This training is currently being replicated in the departments of Putumayo and Caquetá, benefiting a total of 492 producers.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>3.6.</b> By 2022, the map of cocoa and forests in the PDET areas prioritized by the Initiative will be available at a higher resolution, based on the national cocoa map.</p>	<p>The organoleptic map and the map of areas prioritized for CAFS were developed for 3 departments.</p>

Within the framework of the Cocoa for Life program, WCS developed a map of priority areas for CAFS in Caqueta, Guaviare and Putumayo and Alisos, together with Mariana Cocoa, developed the organoleptic map for the same region.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>3.7.</b> By 2022, the environmental, social, and economic verification of the cocoa chain will be completed in at least one territory prioritized by the Initiative.</p>	<p>The environmental, social, and economic verification of the cocoa chain well advanced in 3 departments.</p>

Progress in the social and economic verification of the cocoa chain is described in the previous milestones. Finally, it is also worth noting that WCS set up a biodiversity monitoring system on 15 farms in the Colombian Amazon that provides information on the species that inhabit CAFS plantations.

### Challenges and Mitigation Actions for Outcome 3

Protection of private information is one of the main challenges for Outcome 3. Information required as input for the MRV system is sensitive and confidential regarding producers and their products. To mitigate this challenge, data use protocols have been developed.

In addition, it is often the case that producers are reluctant to share sensitive information required as inputs to the system. It is crucial to outline a strategy for raising awareness and education and reinforce a culture of traceability and transparency.



Photo by: Sofía González - Alisos

## Outcome ST4: Strengthened institutions

### **Strengthening cocoa institutions to address challenges associated with zero-deforestation cocoa production models, with special emphasis on delivering technical assistance to producers**

This outcome designed and is implementing a strategy to strengthen cocoa institutions with an emphasis on zero-deforestation cocoa production models that integrate the forest conservation and restoration and water resource management at a landscape scale. The strategy consolidates a reliable and transparent traceability scheme implemented for improved accountability. Thus, in 10 years, we will have a strengthened the cocoa value chain at all levels with ownership of the topics related to the Initiative.

*“Cocoa institutions: stakeholders indispensable to address challenges associated to zero-deforestation cocoa production models”* Angélica Narváez. Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The national government through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism as well as other domestic institutions including the Colombian National Service for Apprenticeship (SENA), the Colombian Agricultural Institute (ICA) and the Colombian Agricultural Research Corporation (AGROSAVIA) participate across the Colombian cocoa production chain in support of technical assistance. The regional Agriculture Secretariat also participates as do a number of providers of Agricultural Extension Services (EPSEA). Furthermore, the agroindustry chain comprises cocoa producers in primary production; industry, chocolate and candy manufacturers that also support producers, as do some trade, regional middlemen, large retail surfaces, chocolate distributors, exporters of semi-finished goods, and bean exporters.

To achieve Outcome 4, the Initiative has mapped stakeholders that contribute to managing, strengthening or implementing the cocoa chain and/or the conservation of forests. These stakeholders have been classified in four categories according to their activity and interest in the cocoa chain and in managing sustainable landscapes. To strengthen cocoa support in relevant institutions, interactions have been established with stakeholders in Colombian and Latin American chains, seeking to explore and understand their experience in implementing zero-deforestation cocoa production models, including successful projects, recommendations and lessons learned. In addition, the Initiative has also fostered the program Cocoa for Life: +Forests in the Amazon, which outlines and implements a plan for capacity-building among stakeholders involved in the various stages of the cocoa chain in three Departments of the Amazon region.

The data compiled, together with the program outcomes serve as grounds for an analysis that will support the continued engagement and improvement among cocoa institutions. The strategy encourages institutional strengthening and can be replicated in other priority regions, thus continuing the promotion of social, economic, and environmental sustainability within the Colombian cocoa sector.

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>4.1.</b> By 2020, identification of strengthening needs for institutions, local and regional associations, CARs and SINA research institutes, focused on zero-deforestation cocoa production models, encompassing conservation, handling and restoration of forests and water resources at a landscape scale.</p>	<p>Local and regional institutions from prioritized subregions and areas are already designated to be trained. Strengthening opportunities were identified in prioritized subregions.</p>

Stakeholders in need of strengthening in five priority subregions under the Initiative were identified. A database built with contact data from those stakeholders and supplemented with information of other stakeholders shared by the ART, an ally to the Initiative. Three strategic meetings were held with Initiative partners: Compañía Nacional de Chocolates, Climate Focus and Red Cacaotera, which helped identify core needs for institutional strengthening to consolidate cocoa as a zero-deforestation production alternative.

The CpV Program fostered a total of 48 semi-structured interviews with stakeholders identified as incumbents across the cocoa value chain in three Departments including: 12 stakeholders interviewed in Caquetá; 18 stakeholders interviewed in Guaviare; and 16 stakeholders interviewed in Putumayo, in addition to two country-level interviews. Summaries for the three departments was completed from the stakeholder data and interviews. Furthermore, strengthening opportunities identified based on the cocoa chain items (i.e., inputs and plant material, production, beans commercialization, transformation and marketing of cocoa products), as well as other transversal categories (e.g., association capacity, financial resources, governance, deforestation and peacebuilding). Engagement with CARs and SINA research institutes will begin in 2023 to identify the capacity needs related to zero-deforestation cocoa production models.



Photo by: Sofía González - Alisos

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>4.2.</b> By 2021, building a strategy to strengthen institutions, local and regional associations, CARs and SINA research institutes in the framework of the Initiative, focused on zero-deforestation cocoa production models, encompassing conservation, handling and restoration of forests and water resources at a landscape scale.</p>	<p>For the Amazon region and in the framework of the CpV Program an institutional strengthening plan was built for local and regional institutions and associations in relevant territories.</p>

In 2021, a Program for Capacity-Building with key stakeholders along the cocoa value chain was designed for enforcing the Agreement Action Plan in one prioritized subregion. The Program seeks to build capacity among key stakeholders along the cocoa value chain and to create partnerships and multi-sectoral agreements enabling a joint effort toward securing the green growth goals proposed for the region. The Program includes three two-day face-to-face workshops, one per each prioritized department. It also seeks to build capacity among parties engaged in Full Value Agreements, Persuasion Principles and Ethical Use, as well as Relational Intelligence. Furthermore, three virtual instruction sessions were held to reinforce the use of these tools by participants.



Photo by: Sofia González - Alisos



Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>4.3.</b> By 2021 and 2022, implementation of a strengthening strategy addressed to institutions, local and regional associations, CARs and SINA research institutes in the framework of the Initiative, focused on zero-deforestation cocoa production models, encompassing conservation, handling and restoration of forests and water resources at a landscape scale.</p>	<p>Strengthening strategy for institutions and local and regional associations in the territory was implemented in the Amazon region under the CpV Program.</p>

Between 2021 and 2022, Alisos, as part of the Cocoa for Life program, implemented a strategy to strengthen cocoa institutions in three priority Departments of the Amazon region. 70 local stakeholders (23 individuals in Guaviare, 17 in Putumayo and 30 in Caquetá) participated in seven workshops and seven virtual instruction sessions, two per Department and one joint session to develop a mutual learning process. In these meetings 11 public sector institutions, 3 international cooperation institutions, 6 local initiatives relating to cocoa transformation and 9 producer associations were able to participate.

The tools developed in the Program were used by the MADR for formalizing cocoa value chains in the three Departments. Formal uptake requires that Departments outline the roadmap for the cocoa sector and provide indicators, targets and joint actions favorable for the sector development. This creates the conditions for the management and influence of resources on domestic cocoa policies. The Departments were given assistance from the CpV Program, while other stakeholders involved in strengthening activities also participated. The use of tools has been successful to the extent that significant agreements have been reached in each Department.

At present, two Departmental committees have been formed and another has submitted the official request for formalization to the MADR.

### **Challenges and Mitigation Actions for Outcome 4**

One of the challenges relating to Outcome 4 is the identification of strengthening opportunities for CARs and SINA research institutes. To date, no progress has been made in approaching these institutions, which a starting requirement for their inclusion in the Strengthening Program. Coordination with the MADS is taking place to expedite the process for identification of needs and inclusion of actions referred to in the Program.

Another challenge faced in connection to Outcome 4 is the replication of the Strengthening Program in other regions given the complex need for financing and coordinated actions in other prioritized municipalities. Progress has been made in the design of programs encompassing good practices and lessons drawn from the CpV Program in the Amazon, while promoting the liaison with other strategic allies. This is necessary to build alliances and obtain financing for implementation of strengthening programs in other prioritized subregions.



Photo by: Sofía González - Alisos

## Outcome ST5: Communication and transparency

### **Implementation of the CF&P communications and transparency strategy for the industry, the consumers, producers, public entities, whether local, regional, national and international.**

The fifth outcome of the Action Plan designs a strategy focused on positioning speciality cocoa, (cocoa of fine aroma), cocoa associated with zero-deforestation and biodiversity protection, into value-added markets. The opportunity for specialty marketing of Colombian cocoa is made possible by the Monitoring and Traceability System.

*“The power of stories: the significance of disclosing Colombian cocoa successful developments”* Suzette Moreira, Carlos Castellanos and Alfonso Escolar. GIZ Colombia / UK Embassy in Colombia.

For Germany and the United Kingdom, which financed the program “Cocoa for Life: +Forests in the Amazon”, the power of stories is pivotal and helps with international cooperation, in much the same way a cup of hot chocolate eases a hard conversation or makes a cold day more bearable. Knowing what to communicate and to whom is the next step in a communications strategy that will help place cocoa into value-added markets and deliver conservation and rural development success.

The actions pursued in the framework of the CF&P Initiative are to encourage the private sector towards opening and connecting global sustainable markets, raising awareness within civil society. Consumers, meanwhile, need to be informed to be willing to pay more for sustainable zero-deforestation, biodiversity-friendly cocoa.

To secure access to speciality markets needs direct communication channels, starting with producers, in order to disseminate sustainable practices, complete the required implementation and, moreover, encourage other producers to adopt such standards, by strengthening and positioning










any differential attributes of the “*cacao amazónico*” brand, and to eventually improve the living conditions of producer communities.

Both consumers and the public sector are agents that foster change. Communication priorities must draw attention towards new approaches, regions, communities, markets, and cocoa varieties, among others. Reaching consumers and changing their consumption is a unique challenge, as it brings together cultural, economic, social and political criteria. CF&P Initiative promotes the consumption of deforestation-free cocoa, while raising consumer awareness in terms of food and forests conservation. CF&P fosters collective awareness for choosing cocoa products originating from communities and businesses with outstanding sustainability and governance standards that encourage the restoration of nature and the respect for human rights.



It is our commitment to communicate and disclose regional stories of success, agency, and power as a conclusion to our efforts that have given fruit and, little-by-little, transformed lives and ecosystems.









Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>5.1.</b> By 2020, elaboration of a communications and transparency strategy designed to position Colombian cocoa’s attributes, including good practices centered on peacebuilding, zero-deforestation and further environmental, cultural and social aspects.</p>	<p>The Initiative’s communications and transparency strategy was built.</p>

A communications and transparency strategy was developed for the Initiative during the reporting period. The strategy created a commitment across the entire value chain including production, distribution and consumption of sustainable cocoa and its by-products, which, in addition to their fine aroma and flavor, support social and environmental goods. Nine specific goals were defined under the strategy, as follows:

-  Position the Colombian cocoa sector as a production strategy safeguarding key ecosystems and suitable to offer better life standards for families living in post-conflict areas.
-  Build knowledge regarding features of the landscape (sustainable) where Colombian cocoa is produced.
-  Raise awareness on the contribution of cocoa cultivation to peacebuilding.
-  Strengthen, within cocoa sectors and producers, the understanding that significant goals are being achieved with collective efforts.
-  Gain cohesion through market conditions favoring best practices.
-  Facilitate the procurement of better financial conditions through State and banks, to promote goods increasingly well-reputed in global markets.
-  Encourage communities living in cocoa production regions to value their commitment vis-à-vis landscape and coexistence.
-  Provide goodwill and communication skills for lobbying activities before global cocoa-related organizations.
-  Enhance the knowledge of Colombian cocoa, cocoa by-products, and cocoa markets, among investors likely to provide resources for boosting the product position in international markets.

Furthermore, ten types of audience were identified as targets to address the strategy and six different vehicles for dissemination. The following are audiences targeted:

-  Major producers
-  Small and medium-sized producers

-  Researchers and scholars
-  Technical assistants, trainers, and rural extension workers
-  Consumers, clients, and general public
-  Press
-  International and domestic NGOs
-  Government
-  Partners/Donors
-  Investors

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>5.2.</b> By 2021, preparing a strategy for procuring resources and identifying financing agents to implement Phase I of the communications and transparency strategy.</p>	<p>No progress made on this deliverable by 2022.</p>

Milestone	Progress to date
<p><b>5.3.</b> By 2022, phase I of the communication and transparency strategy will be implemented.</p>	<p>No progress made on this deliverable by 2022.</p>

As part of the implementation of the communication and transparency strategy, TFA, together with Biologica Soluciones, developed a communications plan to reposition Amazon sustainable cocoa in the market.

CIAT hosted a high-level event to present evidence generated by researchers of the Sustainable Land use Systems (SLUS) Project in Colombia, which promotes sustainable cocoa and livestock production for forest conservation and peacebuilding in the country's conflict-affected areas.

Finally, Alisos, in its role as Technical Secretariat of CB&P, participated in the Chocoshow (Colombia's chocolate show) to present the Cacao, Forests and Peace initiative, hosted Expo Cacao Amazonas to promote differentiated and high-quality cocoa, attended the XV World Forestry Congress in Seoul to present how to respond to the changing demands of agricultural commodity markets to reverse the trend of deforestation, attended the World Cocoa Foundation Partnership Meeting in Brussels to present the progress of agroforestry cocoa in the Amazon, and elaborated a press kit collecting more than 25 press releases and articles mentioning the Cocoa, Forests & Peace initiative.

## Challenges and Mitigation Actions for Outcome 5

Financing is the main challenge for Outcome 5. Members of the Outcome 5 workgroup will disclose and describe the Initiative to potential strategic allies, while identifying other means of participation involving both funding and in-kind resources, such as volunteers qualified to handle communication tools. Furthermore, this workgroup endeavors to procure the private sector's understanding of and input to the strategy and setting for market and social responsibility. For funding purposes, the strategy will be divided in two: the private sector and by stakeholders seeking and procuring the remaining funding. In 2022, the finance and communication committees were created. They started the financial plan for the communications and transparency strategy.



Photo by: ASOPROCAF

## Conclusion

The first years of implementation have been focused on the consolidation of the CF&P Initiative as a platform for the interaction and creation of partnerships among strategic stakeholders in the Colombian cocoa sector. In some measure, the holistic strengthening of the sector to cover various stages across the cocoa value chain in the country has been achieved. As a result, significant progress has been made in the short-term deliverables under the Action Plan, working together with partners and other specific actors engaged in programs under the Initiative.

Along these lines, short-term implementation of the CF&P has led to a number of lessons: (i) First, it is crucial to encourage alliances among adherents in order to design programs for implementing the Action Plan in regions prioritized under the Initiative; (ii) Second, the significance of a smooth communication between adherents and the Technical Secretariat to identify actions helpful in the Agreement implementation in the context of ongoing cocoa-related programs and projects. (iii) Third, the importance of promoting liaison settings for adherents, beyond the Technical Committee, to know the actions pursued by each institution and identify liaison potential. (iv) Finally, bearing in mind the Technical Secretariat's financing needs for successful operation, it is required to include specific financing proposals. The foregoing, given the relevance of these stages to achieve the Initiative goals.

Year 2022 were the last year of short-term implementation of the Agreement, where suitable conditions to develop actions towards zero-deforestation cocoa eventually occurred. This period entailed major challenges such as consolidation of a liaison platform and implementation of more actions under the CF&P, compared to the remaining two periods (i.e., medium- and long-term). Nevertheless, significant progress has been made, and 2022 witness the completion of the short-term action plans.



It is mandatory to impact public sector, environmental and peace policies to secure that all commitments undertaken across the chain in terms of zero-deforestation cocoa, competitiveness and peacebuilding be the roadmap for the medium- and long-term implementation of the Initiative. As part of this projection, inclusion of a new transversal deliverable will be proposed before the Technical and Steering Committees to define long-term impact indicators, taking into account the commencement of a new implementation stage.

Structurally speaking, a new strategy was applied during 2022 for execution of the Action Plan. Technical Groups were replaced by three committees that address transversal and relevant matters entailing contribution to the Agreement implementation, to wit: Communications Committee, Finance Committee and Public Policy Advocacy Committee. The signatories are part of a committee aligned with their area of expertise. It is worth emphasizing that a communications strategy transversal to the Initiative and related committees is being consolidated to facilitate global markets knowledge of the country efforts and its involvement in zero-deforestation chains.

On the other hand, opportunities for implementation of the CF&P Action Plan 2030 have been identified in subregions other than prioritized subregions for the first stage, likewise included among 16 subregions and 170 municipalities tackled under the Peace Agreement. Three programs are formulated on the grounds of lessons drawn from the program Cocoa for Life: +Forests in the Amazon, which will serve to implement the outcomes in three prioritized subregions: Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Catatumbo and Nariño. Also, is important to point out that next term of implementation 2023-2026, will include the following main objectives: i) 50% of the prioritized territories have implemented the public-private partnership model for technical support; ii) Implemented 50% of the verification of the environmental, social and economic traceability of the cocoa value chain within the framework of CF&P; iii) Pilots of financial instruments implemented in primary production in prioritized geographies; iv) 100% of the prioritized geography recognizes CF&P.



# ANNEXES

Annex 1. Cocoa, Forests & Peace Agreement

Annex 2. 2030 Action Plan

Annex 3. CF&P Fact Sheet

Annex 4. List of Adherents

Annex 5. Members of Thematic Committees

Annex 6. Financial Resources 2018 - 2022

## Annex 1. Cocoa, Forests & Peace Agreements



### **Iniciativa Cacao, Bosques y Paz en Colombia** **Acuerdo Marco para la Acción Conjunta**

#### **1. Preámbulo**

Considerando que en una reunión de alto nivel en Londres, organizada por el Príncipe de Gales en marzo de 2017, se lanza la Declaración de Intención para la Iniciativa Global Cacao y Bosques, que es liderada por The World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) y la Iniciativa e Comercio Sostenible (IDH), quienes firman los Acuerdos Marcos para la Acción Conjunta con los Gobierno de Ghana y Costa de Marfil y las principales compañías productoras y comercializadoras de cacao de estos países con el objetivo de avanzar en cacao cero deforestación;

Considerando que Colombia es uno de los países piloto de la Coalición para la Alimentación y Uso del Suelo (FOLU, por sus siglas en inglés), que tiene como objetivo la construcción de una Hoja de Ruta para una Nueva Economía de la Alimentación y Uso del Suelo que contribuya a la reducción de las emisiones, el aumento de la productividad agrícola, la conservación y restauración de bosques y ecosistemas, entre otros;

Comprendiendo la importancia de las alianzas público-privadas en el desarrollo económico sostenible e inclusivo, y el compromiso de apoyar la Declaración de Bosques de Nueva York, el Desafío de Bonn, el Acuerdo Climático de París y los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible;

Considerando que el país cuenta con la Estrategia Integral de Control a la Deforestación y Gestión de Bosques (EICDGB) – Bosques Territorios de Vida, liderada por el Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible y que la Alta Consejería para el Posconflicto, viene trabajando en la identificación de alternativas productivas sostenibles en el marco de la Estrategia de Desarrollo Rural Integral (DRIS) como contribución a la implementación del Acuerdo Final de Paz;

Reconociendo que con el propósito de implementar el compromiso de cero deforestación neta en la Amazonia para el año 2020, el Gobierno de Colombia con el apoyo de Noruega, Alemania, Reino Unido y el Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial, entre otros aliados, crea en el año 2015 el programa Visión Amazonia. Y que, con los mismos países, Colombia suscribió ese mismo año la Declaración Conjunta sobre Reducción de la Deforestación a Nivel Nacional que además de retomar esta meta, promueve los acuerdos de cero deforestación con cadenas productivas como hitos de política pública;

Reconociendo el papel vital y potencial del sector del cacao en Colombia en la generación de empleos e ingresos a las comunidades locales, en particular en áreas de posconflicto, y el impacto positivo que puede tener sobre la conservación de ecosistemas y bosques;



Considerando la importancia del sector del cacao en el desarrollo social y económico del país, su contribución en la reducción de la pobreza rural y la aceleración de la transición a medios de vida sostenibles para los pequeños agricultores que cultivan cacao;

Reconociendo la importancia de la Reforma Rural Integral del Acuerdo Final de Paz y de avanzar en la clarificación de la tenencia de la tierra y el catastro multipropósito para el desarrollo sostenible;

Enfatizando el papel crítico de los bosques húmedos tropicales, la biodiversidad y la conservación al abordar el cambio climático global, regulando el clima local y regional y proporcionando otros servicios ecosistémicos críticos que apuntalan la resiliencia del sector del cacao y los medios de vida locales;

Reconociendo la existencia de procesos de degradación de los bosques y la necesidad de frenar los procesos de ampliación de la frontera agropecuaria en Colombia, y que el cacao tiene el potencial de contribuir al desarrollo rural sostenible sin ampliar la frontera agropecuaria y evitando la deforestación, contribuyendo a la restauración y a la consolidación de paisajes resilientes;

Comprendiendo la necesidad de fortalecer la capacidad de Colombia para lograr tener mejores y mayores mercados nacionales e internacionales y a su vez disminuir las tasas de deforestación;

Considerando que Colombia ya definió su frontera agropecuaria y ha avanzado en la zonificación ambiental en más de 200 municipios incluidos los pertenecientes a los Planes de Desarrollo con Enfoque Territorial – PDET, donde se deberá llevar a cabo su aplicación para garantizar el desarrollo rural sostenible y orientar las inversiones actuales y futuras que se realicen;

Conscientes de la necesidad de promover, fomentar y acelerar el desarrollo económico y social de Colombia a fin de mejorar los niveles de vida y el bienestar de las personas y consolidar la paz sin dejar de lado las necesidades de protección y conservación de los recursos naturales renovables;

Considerando,

**Nosotros, el Gobierno de Colombia, a través del Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible y el Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural, junto con la Federación Nacional del Cacaoteros, Casa Luker, The World Resources Institute - WRI y IDH – The Sustainable Trade Initiative nos comprometemos a trabajar juntos para poner fin a la deforestación y promover la protección y restauración de los bosques en la cadena de suministro de cacao en Colombia a través de este Acuerdo Marco para la Acción Conjunta.**

El Acuerdo Marco está estructurado en torno a las siguientes tres áreas prioritarias:

1. Protección y restauración forestal, con el fin de que el cacao contribuya plenamente a la protección y restauración de los bosques de Colombia, de acuerdo con la zonificación ambiental y la definición de la frontera agropecuaria;



2. Producción y medios de vida sostenibles de los agricultores, incorporando la intensificación sostenible y la diversificación de la producción de cacao para aumentar los rendimientos de los agricultores, mejorar sus medios de subsistencia y sus ingresos, y reducir la presión sobre los bosques naturales;
3. Participación de la comunidad e inclusión social en torno al cacao, sobre todo en las áreas de importancia crítica del posconflicto en Colombia.

Para efectos del Acuerdo, la deforestación es la conversión directa y/o inducida de la cobertura de **bosque natural**<sup>1</sup> a otro tipo de cobertura en un **período de tiempo** determinado. La fecha inicial ha sido definida teniendo en cuenta la información oficial de cobertura de bosque natural generada por el Sistema de Monitoreo de Bosques y Carbono de Colombia (SMBYC), así como por la Resolución 0261 de 2018 del Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural, por medio de la cual se establece la Frontera Agropecuaria Nacional, excluyendo de la frontera las áreas que eran bosques en 2010 y propendiendo por la restauración de las áreas deforestadas después de 2010.

Con base en lo anterior, se considera que las áreas con plantaciones de cacao han conllevado deforestación si el cambio de cobertura de bosque a no bosque ocurrió con posterioridad al 1 de enero de 2011.

## 2. Principales Compromisos

El Gobierno de Colombia en el marco de sus competencias, la Federación Nacional del Cacaoteros y las empresas y organizaciones signatarias acuerdan once compromisos básicos:

1. Prevenir actividades que causen o contribuyan a la deforestación o la degradación forestal en el sector del cacao;
2. Orientar la producción de cacao en cumplimiento de la zonificación ambiental y aptitud del uso del suelo, y de la delimitación de la frontera agropecuaria;
3. Apoyar los derechos de los productores de cacao, incluida la identificación y mitigación de riesgos sociales, y la secuenciación de la implementación de acciones para minimizar los potenciales impactos sociales y económicos adversos;
4. Promover la restauración efectiva y la conservación de las áreas protegidas, las áreas de especial interés ambiental, los bosques y ecosistemas dentro o cerca de áreas de producción de cacao;
5. Gestionar acciones conjuntas acordadas en el contexto de un enfoque más amplio a nivel de paisaje, con fuertes vínculos y en alineación con la estrategia nacional de Bosques Territorios de Vida, la Estrategia DRIS, Bosques de Paz, la Alianza TFA 2020 Colombia, la Iniciativa 20x20 de

<sup>1</sup> La definición de **bosque natural**, que es el objeto de conservación de este Acuerdo, la dispuso el IDEAM para Colombia como: "Tierra ocupada principalmente por árboles que puede contener arbustos, palmas, guaduas, hierbas y lianas, en la que predomina la cobertura arbórea con una densidad mínima del dosel de 30%, una altura mínima del dosel (in situ) de 5 m al momento de su identificación, y un área mínima de 1,0 ha. Se excluyen las coberturas arbóreas de plantaciones forestales comerciales (coníferas y/o latifoliadas).



WRI, la Coalición FOLU Colombia, la Alianza Público – privada para una Agricultura Sostenible y otras estrategias nacionales relevantes;

6. Establecer conjuntamente un proceso de diálogo participativo con múltiples partes interesadas sobre cuestiones claves del acuerdo, desarrollar planes de implementación efectivos y fomentar el aprendizaje conjunto, y el intercambio de conocimientos.
7. Contribuir a la ejecución del Acuerdo Final de Paz, a través de su Plan de Implementación en lo que tiene que ver con el punto 1 y 4. En cuanto a la Reforma Rural Integral, contribuir al cierre de la frontera agropecuaria, uso adecuado del suelo, protección de ecosistemas estratégicos.
8. Monitorear la superficie de bosque para su conservación y de los cultivos de cacao para su manejo, como base para la toma de decisiones.
9. Proporcionar un monitoreo e informes efectivos sobre el progreso en los compromisos y acciones para garantizar la transparencia y la rendición de cuentas.
10. Divulgar el concepto de cacao cero deforestación en el mercado nacional e internacional y sensibilizar a los diferentes actores de la cadena, respecto a la relevancia e impacto de la no deforestación en la provisión de servicios ambientales, la calidad de vida de los productores, la resiliencia frente al clima del sector cacaotero, y su acceso a mercados.
11. Apoyar mercados sostenibles de productos de cacao que demuestren su aporte a la restauración y la protección del bosque natural.

### **3. Área prioritaria 1: cacao para la protección y restauración de los bosques**

Los firmantes reconocen la importancia crítica de proteger los bosques de Colombia y de restaurar los bosques que se han degradado previamente.

Se comprometen a lo siguiente:

- A. Propender por que el sector del cacao en Colombia no contribuye a la deforestación y degradación forestal en el país.
- B. Propender por que los cultivos de cacao que se establezcan por fuera de la frontera agropecuaria, definida según Resolución 261 de 2018, tenga objetivo la restauración y/o recuperación de áreas degradadas.
- C. Establecer a nivel corporativo metas cuantitativas de corto, mediano y largo plazo de producción y abastecimiento de cacao libre deforestación y degradación forestal, con hitos a 2020 y aspirando llegar a una cadena plenamente documentada libre de deforestación y degradación forestal para el año 2025
- D. Establecer a nivel corporativo políticas de proveeduría de cacao a productores e intermediarios incorporando los criterios de no deforestación y trazabilidad del producto y privilegiando a los productores libres de deforestación. Estas políticas reconocerán la variedad de productores primarios y sus necesidades en acompañamiento, fortalecimiento y asociatividad para su inclusión en una cadena de valor libre de deforestación.
- E. Contribuir a la conservación, restauración y conectividad de relictos de bosques de las fincas productoras de cacao con el fin de proteger el recurso hídrico, la biodiversidad y los suelos.



- F. Aumentar la colaboración público-privada para movilizar nuevas fuentes de financiamiento para la protección y restauración de los bosques, e incentivar la adopción por parte de los agricultores de la producción de cacao ambientalmente sustentable. Las oportunidades clave incluyen, entre otras cosas, el apoyo a mecanismos financieros innovadores (como los pagos por servicios ambientales, financiamiento de carbono y fondos fiduciarios público-privados) y una mayor implementación de la producción de cacao climáticamente inteligente. Las oportunidades clave incluyen, entre otras cosas, el apoyo a mecanismos financieros innovadores
- G. Mejorar la colaboración público-privada, en asociación con expertos locales y globales, para identificar buenas prácticas y orientación técnica para la conservación y restauración forestal.

#### **4. Área prioritaria 2: Producción sostenible y mejores medios de vida de los agricultores en el sector del cacao**

Los signatarios reconocen que la intensificación agrícola sostenible en áreas ambientalmente adecuadas y el aumento de los ingresos de los agricultores son requisitos previos esenciales para cerrar la frontera agropecuaria, hacer un uso adecuado de suelo, proteger los ecosistemas estratégicos y fortalecer la resiliencia del cultivo del cacao ante el cambio climático. La mejora de la producción de cacao también es críticamente importante para proporcionar empleos y medios de subsistencia a la población rural en el periodo posterior al conflicto. Para este fin, se comprometen, según su papel dentro de la cadena, a las siguientes acciones conjuntas:

- A. Promover la inversión en la productividad a largo plazo del cacao de alta calidad de manera ambientalmente sostenible y cultivar "más cacao en menos tierra", mediante el recambio de plantaciones de cacao envejecidas y de baja productividad, la intensificación de las prácticas agrícolas, el suministro de materiales de siembra mejorados, la introducción de métodos que mejoren el rendimiento, la Implementación de Buenas Prácticas Agrícolas (BPA), la protección y nutrición de cultivos y fertilidad del suelo.
- B. Apoyar el proceso de intensificación de la producción de cacao contribuyendo a la consolidación o construcción de paisajes sostenibles teniendo en cuenta la zonificación ambiental que se implementará en el posconflicto, así como la zonificación de aptitud UPRA.
- C. Promover medios de vida sostenibles y la diversificación de los ingresos para los productores de cacao, los cultivos agrícolas intercalados, los sistemas agroforestales y silvopastoriles, el desarrollo del cacao bajo sombra y otras actividades generadoras de ingresos diseñadas para impulsar y diversificar los ingresos de los hogares.
- D. Promover la extensión rural con elementos que incluyan tecnologías de cosecha y poscosecha sostenible y diversificada y que incluya los compromisos de reducción de deforestación como parte de los acuerdos productivos.
- E. Promover la inclusión financiera y la innovación para profundizar el acceso de los agricultores al capital de trabajo y los fondos de inversión necesarios para la producción y la rehabilitación y renovación de las fincas de cacao.
- F. Impulsar estrategias de mercado y promoción ante mercados nacionales e internacionales de cacao asociados a cero deforestación y protección de la biodiversidad y del recurso hídrico.



### 5. Área prioritaria 3: Compromiso con la comunidad e inclusión social en el sector del cacao

Los signatarios reconocen que la participación efectiva y el empoderamiento de las comunidades cacaoteras, con un enfoque particular en las mujeres y los jóvenes, y las organizaciones de la sociedad civil en el proceso del Acuerdo Marco. Se comprometen a lo siguiente:

- A. Generar un intercambio de información, para facilitar la participación plena, efectiva e informada de los productores de cacao y sus comunidades involucradas en la implementación del Acuerdo Marco, en el marco de las obligaciones legales aplicables sobre participación y consulta.
- B. Promover modelos de gestión basados en la comunidad para la protección y restauración de los bosques en paisajes cacaoteros, incluida la participación de las comunidades locales y los agricultores en campañas de concienciación sobre el estado de las áreas protegidas y el papel fundamental que desempeñan los bosques en la regulación del clima.
- C. Desarrollar planes de acción para la intensificación agrícola sostenible y el acceso a capacidad de generación de cadenas de valor que incorporen el enfoque de género.

### 6. Monitoreo y Verificación

La medición y el monitoreo del progreso a nivel nacional y de paisaje serán fundamentales para garantizar la rendición de cuentas y la transparencia, y promover el aprendizaje y las correcciones a mitad de camino. Se desarrollará un proceso transparente y creíble y científicamente sustentable, para medir y monitorear el progreso frente a las acciones contenidas en el Marco y el sistema de seguimiento al cumplimiento del Plan Marco de Implementación del Acuerdo Final en el sistema SIPO.

El sistema de monitoreo del acuerdo estará articulado con las herramientas de monitoreo forestal desarrolladas por el Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales (IDEAM) particularmente el Sistema Nacional de Monitoreo de Bosques y Carbono (SMBYC), el Inventario Forestal Nacional y el Cubo de Datos de Colombia (CDCol). Los integrantes trabajarán conjuntamente para generar una línea base de deforestación asociada al cultivo de cacao.

### 7. Implementación y gobernanza

El Gobierno, la Federación Nacional del Cacaoteros, las empresas y las organizaciones no gubernamentales signatarias acuerdan implementar las acciones del Acuerdo Marco en el contexto de un enfoque más amplio a nivel de paisaje que tome en cuenta todas las causas y agentes de la deforestación, así como vínculos con iniciativas similares en otros productos básicos. La Iniciativa se implementará a través de una asociación público-privada compuesta por el gobierno, la sociedad civil y el sector privado y/o a través de convenios específicos que regularán los derechos y obligaciones específicos de las partes.

Los firmantes deberán definir en un plazo no mayor a un mes contados a partir de la firma del presente Acuerdo, quien ejercerá la Secretaría Técnica, entidad que deberá proponer un reglamento operativo y citar a los firmantes a la construcción conjunta de un plan de acción de corto, medio y largo plazo. Esta





Secretaría será rotativa cada año entre las entidades firmantes y tendrá como función convocar a las reuniones plenarias, coordinar el avance y reporte de los resultados del Acuerdo, y fungir como representante del mismo. El Acuerdo permanecerá abierto para firma de empresas cacaoteras, compradores de cacao, instituciones gubernamentales y organizaciones de productores y de la sociedad civil vinculadas con la cadena según el procedimiento de adhesión que se defina en el reglamento operativo.

El presente Acuerdo Marco de Acción Conjunta, se firma en Bogotá, Colombia, el 17 de julio de 2018.

*Dr. Luis Gilberto Murillo Urrutia*  
Ministro de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible -

*Dr. Juan Guillermo Zuluaga Cardona*  
Ministro de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural

*Dr. Eduardo Baquero López*  
Presidente Ejecutivo  
Federación Nacional de Cacaoteros

*Dr. Camilo Romero Restrepo*  
Gerente General  
Casa Luker

*Dr. Miguel Pinedo*  
Program Manager Colombia  
IDM - The Sustainable Trade Initiative

*Dr. Andrew Steer*  
President and CEO  
The World Resources Institute - WRI



Al presente Acuerdo Marco de Acción Conjunta se adhieren las siguientes nuevas instituciones, se firma en Bogotá, Colombia, el 19 de septiembre de 2019.

*Claudia Jaspe*  
The Nature Conservancy - TNC

*[Signature]*  
Cooperación Económica y Desarrollo Suiza

*[Signature]*  
Wildlife Conservation Society - WCS

*[Signature]*  
Lök Foods

*Silvia Vazquez*  
World Wildlife Fund

Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical - CIAT

*[Signature]*  
Rainforest Alliance

*[Signature]*  
Climate Focus

*[Signature]*  
Fundación Aliso

*Maria del Pilar Corina Lopez*  
Mariana Cocoa Export



Al presente Acuerdo Marco de Acción Conjunta se adhieren las siguientes nuevas instituciones, se firma en Bogotá, Colombia, el 16 de junio del 2021.

Colin Martin-Reynolds CMG  
Embajador  
Embajada del Reino Unido en Colombia

Miguel Ángel Vianchá Pinzón,  
Gerente  
Fundación Proyección Eco-social.

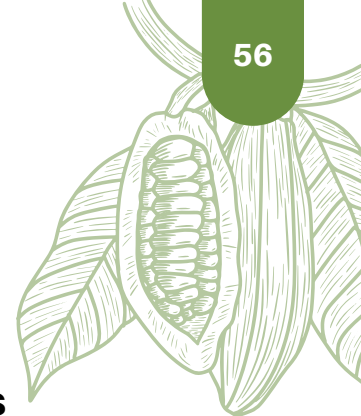
Camilo Fernández de Soto Camacho,  
Presidente  
Colombia Productiva.

En constancia firma a los **25 ABR. 2022**

Stepan Uncovsky,  
Director Residente  
GIZ Colombia.

## Annex 2. 2030 Action Plan

### Strategic Outcomes



#### **Outcome 1: Zero-deforestation cocoa production models**

This outcome seeks to develop by 2030 a model of public-private territorial alliances for the technical accompaniment of producers, a research agenda developed to guarantee better cocoa productivity in agroforestry arrangements, guidelines for planting and buying cocoa with zero deforestation adopted by the industry.

Relevant milestones:

- Model(s) of public-private territorial alliances implemented with technical accompaniment.
- Research agenda developed to guarantee better cocoa productivity in agroforestry arrangements.
- Guidelines for planting and buying cocoa with zero deforestation adopted by the industry.

#### **Outcome 2: Financial instruments that consolidate zero deforestation cocoa models**

The financial instruments must respond to the new economic and rural reality of the country and to the climatic and environmental conditions. The second outcome aims to promote and appropriate financial instruments that consolidate zero deforestation cocoa models that include innovative investment strategies for the cocoa sector. Emphasis is also placed on financial inclusion to improve the living conditions of rural communities.

Relevant milestones:

- Sustainability criteria incorporated into existing financial instruments.
- Training in credit and other financial instruments, including innovative instruments.

- Barriers to financial instruments overcome.
- Monitoring, traceability and accompaniment scheme for credits and financial instruments.

### **Outcome 3: Monitoring, Verification and Traceability System**

The Initiative will have a monitoring system that allows for the accounting of positive impacts, the generation of alerts, and the measurement of the Initiative's efforts. In addition, the system will verify progress in compliance with agreements and document zero deforestation cocoa production for the Initiative's projects. The System will be articulated with the Strategy against Cadmium promoted by the National Government and will be implemented in the territories prioritized by the Initiative.

Relevant milestones:

- Indicators of the Monitoring and Verification System identified.
- Producers, associations, industry and other entities as trained information providers.
- Monitoring, Verification and Traceability System replicated for all the prioritized territories.

### **Outcome 4: Strengthening cocoa institutions for the challenges of forests and peace**

This outcome seeks to design a strategy to strengthen cocoa institutions with an emphasis on zero-deforestation cocoa production models that integrate the conservation, management and restoration of forest and water resources at a landscape scale. The strategy will consolidate a reliable and transparent traceability scheme implemented for accountability. Thus, in 10 years, we will have a strengthened cocoa value chain at all levels with ownership of the topics related to the Initiative.



Relevant milestones:

- Strategy to strengthen cocoa institutions with emphasis on zero cocoa production models and restoration.
- Strengthening strategy for local and regional associative organizations, CARs and SINA Institutes to strengthen cocoa agroforestry alternatives.
- National Cacao Council strengthened on issues related to cocoa, forests and peace.
- Reliable and transparent traceability scheme implemented for accountability.

### **Outcome 5: Communications and transparency strategy**

The fifth outcome of the Action Plan aims at designing a strategy focused on positioning special cocoa, cocoa finos de aroma, cocoa associated with zero-deforestation and biodiversity protection, among others. The positioning of Colombian cocoa will be supported by the Monitoring and Traceability System.

Relevant milestones:

- Communication and transparency strategy that positions special Colombian cocoa as a cocoa of good practices.



## Annex 3. CF&P Fact Sheet



**Cocoa, Forests & Peace Initiative Colombia**



### Context

In the Peace Agreement, signed by the Colombian Government in 2016, cocoa became a key alternative in support of zero-deforestation agriculture, helping to catalyze sustainable rural development and peacebuilding. In this scenario, Colombia decided to create the Cacao, Forests & Peace (CB&P) agreement, in 2018 and became the first country in Latin America to join the international initiative Cacao & Forests (C&F) promoted by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF).

CF&P is a public-private initiative that promotes deforestation-free cocoa production, helping to protect and restore forests in the cocoa value chain, to improve livelihoods for producers, and to consolidate the peace process in Colombia.

Since 2019 Alisos has served as the Technical Secretariat of this Initiative seeking to enhance its positive impact on communities and forests. It has been responsible for monitoring progress in its fulfillment, facilitating inter-institutional relationships between actors in the cocoa chain and leveraging resources for its implementation.



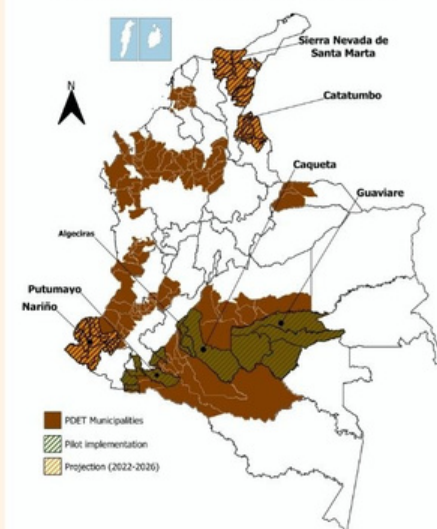
### Geographies

The CF&P agreement seeks to be implemented in all PDET territories (municipalities that the National Government has identified as the most affected by the armed conflict, poverty, institutional weakness, and the presence of illicit crops) where there is high cocoa and forest converge. In order to determine where to start its implementation, an analysis was carried out based on forest cover, cocoa production and the impact of the armed conflict. The subregions prioritized in the different stages emerged from this analysis.

During the short term (2018 -2022) implementation was prioritized in the PDET subregions of: Putumayo; Caguán Basin and Piedemonte Caqueteño; and Macarena - Guaviare.

For the medium term (2023- 2025) the following areas were targeted: Pacific and Nariño Border; Sierra Nevada - Perijá; and Catatumbo.

#### CF&P ZONES OF INTERFERENCE MAP



## Strategic results – Action plan 2030



Zero deforestation cocoa production models



Financial instruments that consolidate zero deforestation cocoa production models



Monitoring, verification and traceability system



Communication and transparency strategy



Strengthening of cocoa institutions for the challenges of forests and peace

### Short-term achievements (2018-2022)

- Research needs and stakeholders expected to conduct them identified.
- Cultivation guidelines for zero-deforestation agroforestry systems designed.
- Directives for ecological and productive landscape restoration with cocoa agroforestry systems developed for one of the prioritized regions.
- A pilot for technical support to public-private partnerships for restoration and development of cocoa agroforestry systems developed in one of the prioritized regions.
- Description and prioritization of financial instruments available.
- Analysis available regarding barriers to prioritized instruments to access financial instruments.
- Training plans for access to credit and other financing mechanisms for producers/farms have been built.
- Outcomes from the MRV system pilot designed and implemented in one of the prioritized regions.
- The environmental, social, and economic verification of the cocoa chain well advanced in 3 Departments.
- Strengthening strategy for institutions and local and regional associations in the territory implemented in the Amazon region under the Cocoa for Life Program.
- The Initiative's communications and transparency strategy built.



### Adherents

More than 20 supporters from the government, the private sector and civil society:



### Technical Secretary



### Allies





## Programs that contribute to the fulfillment of the 2030 action plan

### **Cocoa for Life + Forests in Amazonia**

Rainforest Alliance, WCS, Alisos, UK Pact and GIZ.

### **Cocoa Effect**

IDH, Luker Foundation, Luker Chocolate, EAFIT.

### **Traceability & Transparency System**

Magorexport, Climate Focus and Alisos.

### **Aurora Project**

GIZ, Chuculat and Insitu.

### **Mitigate +**

CIAT

### **Resilient Agrilac**

CIAT

### **Euroclima+**

MADS, MADR, Fundación Ecosocial

### **Jaguar Friendly Certification Pilot Project**

GIZ and ProCat

### **Sustainable Livelihoods**

RARE and UK PACT

### **Protected areas and peace**

WWF

### **Strengthening of the Caquetá Cocoa Chain**

SENA, Fedecacao, Carlota Foundation

### **Adding for the future**

Développement International Desjardins and Luker Foundation




### **Amazonía Mia**

Chemonics and Red Cacaotera

## Goals for the medium term (2022 -2025)

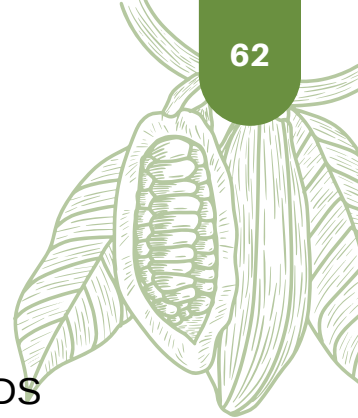
- 50% of the prioritized territories have implemented the public-private partnership model for technical assistance.
- 50% of the verification of the environmental, social and economic traceability of the cocoa value chain.
- 40% of the topics defined by the Initiative have initiated their research.
- 100% of the prioritized geography recognizes CB&P.
- National Cocoa Council and National Environmental System research institutes (SINA) strengthened in the topics related to the Initiative.

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## Annex 4. List of adherents



### Public Sector:

-  Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - MADR
-  Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development - MADS
-  Colombia Productiva – Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism





### Private Sector:

-  Compañía Nacional de Chocolates (CNCH).
-  Luker Chocolate.
-  Mariana Cocoa.
-  Lök Foods.
-  Grupo BIZ Colombia SAS – Chuculat.




### Cocoa Industry Sector:

-  FEDECACAO
-  Red Cacaotera





### Non-Governmental Organizations:

-  The Sustainable Trade Initiative - IDH
-  World Resources Institute - WRI
-  International Center for Tropical Agriculture - CIAT
-  Climate Focus
-  The Nature Conservancy - TNC
-  Rainforest Alliance
-  Wildlife Conservation Society - WCS
-  World Wildlife Fund - WWF
-  Alianzas para la sostenibilidad - Alisos
-  Fundación Etnollano
-  Proyección Ecosocial

### International Cooperation:

-  Swiss Embassy in Colombia
-  UK Embassy in Colombia
-  GIZ Colombia

**Strategic Allies:**

-  The Agency for Territorial Renewal - ART
-  Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies - IDEAM
-  Food and Land Use Coalition - FOLU
-  Tropical Forest Alliance - TFA









## Annex 5. Members of Thematic Committees


### Communications Committee:

-  IDH
-  Luker Chocolate
-  FOLU
-  Lok Foods
-  Compañía Nacional de Chocolates
-  Fundación Etnollano
-  UK Embassy
-  Proyección Eco-Social
-  GIZ Colombia

### Finance Committee:

-  Colombia Productiva
-  Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
-  Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
-  Compañía Nacional de Chocolates
-  Luker Chocolate
-  Chuculat

### Public Policy Advocacy Committee:

-  FOLU
-  WWF
-  Colombia Productiva
-  Alisos
-  MADR
-  MADS



## Annex 6. Financial resources 2018-2022

Between 2018 and 2022, a total of USD\$ 5,908,887 was spent to fund the short-term implementation of the Agreement 2020-2030 Action Plan, as well as the Initiative's Technical Secretariat. Below is the list of detailed investments made by adherents and the purpose thereof for the short-term period (2018-2022):

<b>Program</b>	<b>Adherents; Implementers</b>	<b>Funding Entities</b>	<b>Amount (USD)</b>	<b>Amount (COP)</b> <sup>14</sup>
Baseline study under the CF&P Initiative	CIAT	WRI	\$12,000	45.000.000
Cocoa for Life: +Forests in the Amazon (CpV)	Rainforest Alliance, WCS and Alisos	UK Pact	\$ 1.441.000	5.403.750.000
		GIZ Colombia	\$ 1.327.500	4.978.125.000
Efecto Cacao	Luker Chocolate	IDH	\$343,580	1.288.425.000
		USAID	\$ 279.525	1.048.218.750
		Luker	\$ 2.071.257.	7.767.213.750
Diagnosis for a Traceability and Transparency System in Ecuador and Colombia	Climate Focus, Mariana Cocoa and Alisos	European Forest Institute	\$188,572	707.145.000
CF&P Technical Secretariat	Alisos	WRI	\$96,458	361.717.500
		IDH	\$49,481	185.553.750
		TFA	\$ 4.000	15.000.000
		FAO	\$4.500	16.875.000
		Alisos	\$91.014	341.302.500
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 5.908.887</b>	<b>22.158.326.250</b>

<sup>14</sup> 1 USD = 3,750 COP, approximate average in the 2018-2022 short-term period.