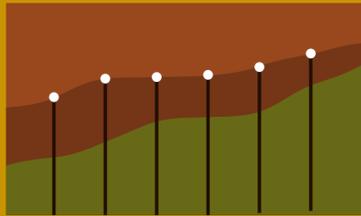
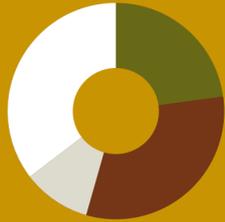
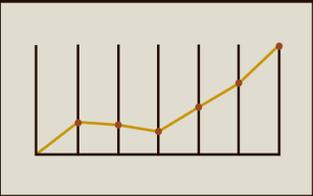




# COCOA HORIZONS METHODOLOGY

In line with guidance from CocoaAction, we have developed an in-depth methodology to achieve our mission to improve the livelihoods of cocoa farmers and their communities, as quickly and sustainably as possible. You can find a quick summary below.

We have different methodologies tailored to meet the demands of our partner countries, but they all contain the following core elements.



## BEST PRACTICE

### STARTING OUT RIGHT

As well as ensuring every Farmer Group has an effective internal management system, we ask all new partners to commit to several key documents. These include:

#### FARMER GROUPS

- Supplier Code
- The Cocoa Horizons Convention
- The Child Labor Charter
- A Declaration on Protected Forests

#### FARMERS

- Cocoa Horizons Contract (which outlines farmer obligations in line with our methodology)



## TRACEABILITY

### BUILDING TRACEABILITY INTO THE CORE OF OUR PROGRAM

We assign all farmers a unique code and train them in traceability issues, so that we can trace all of our cocoa from the warehouse back to the farmer who grew it.

## VERIFICATION

### WE'RE CONFIDENT IT'S WORKING, SO YOU CAN BE TOO

We have independent verification tests in place to make sure everything is operating as it should be – from our productivity and community interventions, to our data collection and traceability.

## TRANSPARENCY

### 100% VISIBILITY ON WHERE THE MONEY GOES

We want all our customers to know exactly how we spend the premiums they pay. Here's how we distribute customer premiums - this will be reviewed periodically and always communicated. You can find out more about our activities by [looking online](#).

## DATA

### THE MORE WE KNOW, THE MORE WE CAN DO

The more data we can gather about our program of activities, the faster we can improve. That's why we're working hard to collect and digitise training records, traceability records, farmer survey results and mapping data about farmers and their crops.

### COCOA HORIZONS PREMIUM USES

● Farmer/Farmer Group Cash Premium	27%
● Community	18%
● Productivity	41%
● Administration, Verification and Program Management	14%
● TOTAL	100%

## PRODUCTIVITY

Our productivity interventions target farmer training, support and financing. This means providing access to everything from tools, inputs and planting material, to credit schemes and coaching. Farm Development Plans are initiated based on the farmer's current situation. We incorporate needs to improve productivity, including financial support, and make an action plan together with farmers in order to reach their profitability targets.

## • Our Farmer Trainers

PRODUCTIVITY

Our Farmer Trainers are a critical part of our Farmer Groups. They collect data and register new farmers, and provide coaching in topics such as cocoa quality, traceability, sustainability, health & safety, and child protection.

Our first Farmer Trainer accreditation program started last year, and will see at least 200 handpicked community members trained in agronomy, adult education and farming as a business. Our goal is to build trainers' knowledge and expertise, and transform them into coaches.

## • Training Methods

PRODUCTIVITY

We provide training via Farmer Field Schools and individual group member coaching sessions, offering modules on traceability, farming practices, business skills, child protection and gender equality.



## • Farm Finance

PRODUCTIVITY

Providing support and finance to farmers is the next step in enabling them to improve their farm productivity and therefore, their livelihoods. We focus on a complete productivity package which includes access to:

- Coaching support from accredited Farmer Trainers;
- Tools, inputs and/or planting material to aid in adoption of Good Agricultural Practices, soil fertility management, and rehabilitation;
- Finance, including savings accounts and credit schemes, as well as offering pre-financing opportunities to farmers in our program.

## COMMUNITY

All our community interventions target education, child protection, women's empowerment or health.



## • Education

COMMUNITY

We are providing infrastructure improvements, materials and equipment to schools in our farmer communities. We're also working to create or strengthen community-based school management committees, which support students and monitor school attendance rates. Additionally, HORIZONS customers have the opportunity to partner with the Foundation to build schools in cocoa communities with the greatest need.

## • Child Protection

COMMUNITY

Our Child Protection Campaign is working with Farmer Groups and cocoa communities to raise awareness around child labor issues. We have formed a Child Protection Committee and are implementing monitoring and remediation programs in our efforts to eradicate child labor in the cocoa supply chain.

## • Health

COMMUNITY

Our health awareness work is aimed at improving access to drinking water and improving sanitation facilities in schools. Health training includes topics such as hygiene and nutrition, often through relevant examples such as hand washing and safe water storage.

## • Women's Empowerment

COMMUNITY

We provide training in women's rights and empowerment, and gender sensitivity. Our aim is to increase the participation of women in Farmer Groups and community governance structures, giving them the opportunity to generate income.

In select communities, we are also offering women the chance to train in agroforestry, so they have the skills and knowledge to run their own, sustainable agricultural plots.

