



THE COCOA SNAPSHOT

15/16 MID YEAR REVIEW

Bringing you news and updates about the Cocoa Horizons program from around the world.

The Cocoa Horizons Foundation's mission is to improve the livelihoods of cocoa farmers and their communities through the promotion of sustainable, entrepreneurial farming, improved productivity and community development.

This first snapshot includes a quick recap of our approach and methodology, as well as mid-year updates from our three partner countries - Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Tanzania.



SCALING IMPACT AND DRIVING CHANGE THROUGH PRODUCTIVITY AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES



Our program activities are designed to help farmers improve their productivity and enable their communities to flourish. All our work is underpinned by our ongoing commitment to improving traceability, transparency and verification.

PRODUCTIVITY

- Farmer Training
- Farmer Support
- Farmer Financing

COMMUNITY

- Education
- Child Protection
- Women's Empowerment
- Health



OUR METHODOLOGY

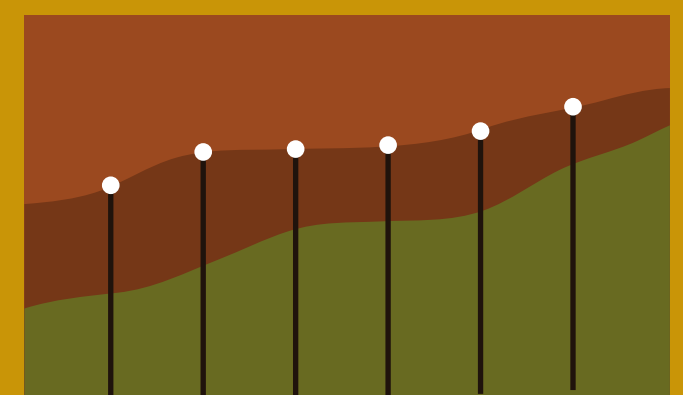
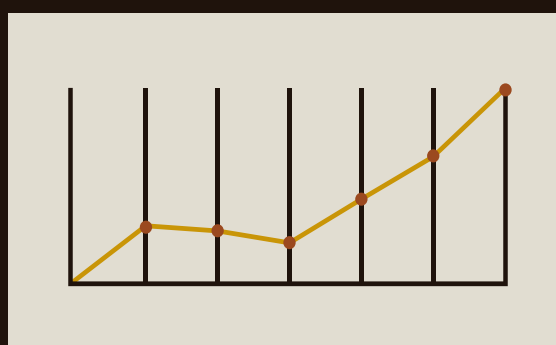
VERIFICATION

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.

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

We have three methodologies tailored to meet the demands of our three 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 Labour 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.



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. We are on track to collect this data for 70,000 farmers in Côte d’Ivoire.



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 an overview of our costs in Cote d’Ivoire – you can always find out more about our activities by [looking online](#).

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.

Our Farmer Trainers

PRODUCTIVITY

Our Farmer Trainers are a critical part of our Farmer Groups. They collect data and register new farmers, and provide training via the Farmer Field Schools 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

We have launched a pilot finance project in Cote d'Ivoire, which will help farmers access finance for productivity investments, farm services and ongoing farmer coaching. We're currently testing the project with 1,000 farmers from 20 Farmer Groups.



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 labour issues. We are forming a Child Protection Committee and for the next season are preparing to reach 1,000 farmer households with a monitoring and remediation system pilot.



• 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.

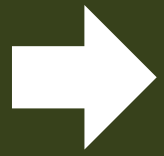
In select communities, we are also offering women the chance to train in agroforestry, so they have the skills and knowledge to run their own, sustainable agricultural plots.

• Health

COMMUNITY

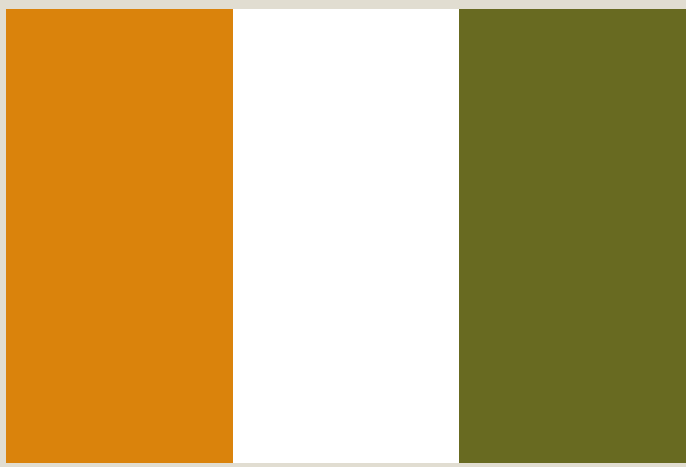
Our health awareness work is aimed at improving access to drinking water and improving sanitation facilities in schools. The health training includes topics such as hygiene and nutrition, often through relevant examples such as hand washing and safe water storage.





COUNTRY UPDATES

September 2015 - March 2016



COTE D'IVOIRE

START DATE: 2014

The Cocoa Horizons Program started first in Cote d'Ivoire in 2014, and had its verification tested from March to June 2015. We're pleased to report that the program is thriving and we're now implementing an updated methodology (version 2), based on our learnings here.

• Productivity

COTE D'IVOIRE

- Productivity package implemented in 65 cooperatives and four branches of Biolands*
- 37,487 registered farmers
- Training offered to all registered farmers in good agricultural practices, traceability, quality, health and environmental issues
- Two new mechanisms for more efficient fertiliser distribution reaching 465 farmers
- 29 new nurseries established in farmer groups, producing 467,750 seedlings for replanting needs
- 29 demonstration plots established as of 2015
- Farmer finance accessible in 21 cooperatives and four Biolands branches. About 1,770 savings accounts have been opened so far
- Access to crop protection provided to 18 cooperatives

*Biolands is Barry Callebaut's direct sourcing and farm services business

• Community

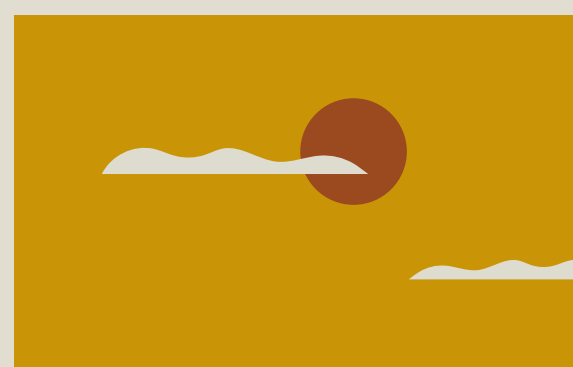
COTE D'IVOIRE

- Three school extensions, including three new classrooms per school, two headmaster offices, teacher housing, canteens, solar energy, furniture and a borehole
- 2,000 children provided with school kits, including a school bag, pencils, notebooks and a ruler
- So far this year, we've distributed 233 birth certificates
- Women provided with training in literacy, productivity and entrepreneurship
- Health activities included construction of boreholes and latrines

GHANA

START DATE: DECEMBER 2015

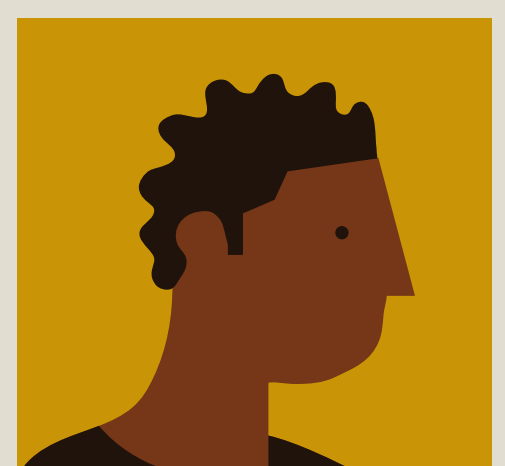
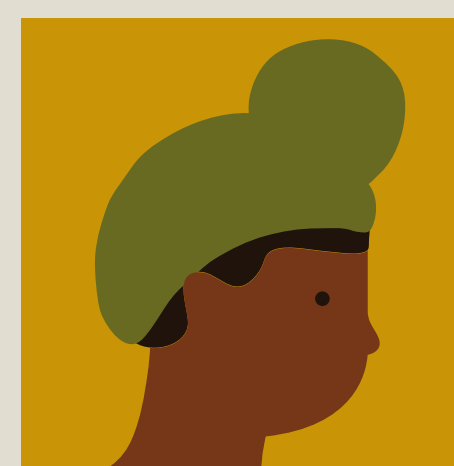
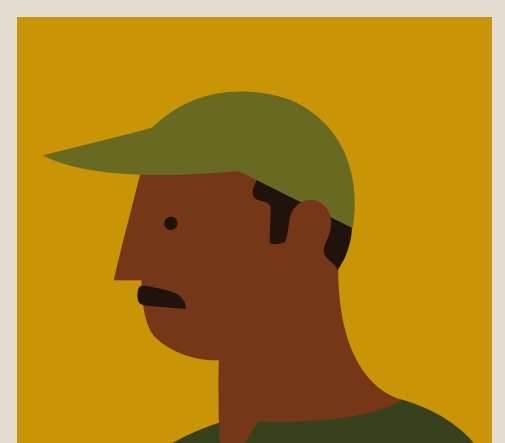
Our activities in Ghana have been focused on 16 cocoa districts in the Eastern, Central and Ashanti regions of the country. We've accomplished a lot in the short time since the project started – you can see our progress below.



• Productivity

GHANA

- 7,450 farmers already registered by April 2016
- Farmers from 594 different farmer groups in 16 districts have joined so far
- Recruitment of Technical Officers and District Managers underway (ten District Managers have been trained so far)
- Training took place for 12 purchasing assistants in traceability and cocoa quality factors
- Developed training schedules for lead farmers responsible for productivity coaching
- Farm and crop mapping is under development
- The farm finance needs of the farmers are currently being studied to design the right offering





Community

GHANA

- An infrastructure survey to assess needs is being conducted in all villages and societies until the end of August
- Staff, including lead farmers, will contribute to and attend child labour information sessions and conduct at least one sensitisation action per village this current season



TANZANIA

START DATE: OCTOBER 2015

Tanzania is a special country because the entire crop is produced organically – only natural fertilisers are used. The Cocoa Horizons Foundation operates in Tanzania in partnership on a Special Project and will complement these activities with funding from Cocoa Horizons volumes in FY16/17.



Productivity

TANZANIA

- Identified 15 demonstration plots – their preparation started in April
- Established three nurseries and distributed 90,000 seedlings
- Plans for farm mapping are in progress with goal to have 1500 farmers mapped this season
- Productivity activities planned over the next three years include:
 - supply of pruning tools
 - training of 4500 farmers (1500 per year)
 - establishment of 45 demo plots (15 per year)
 - supply of 300,000 seedlings (100,000 per year)
 - creation of a pruning team to supply farmers

Community

TANZANIA

- Supply of school infrastructure, such as 21 classrooms, 490 desks, books, offices and latrines
- Child protection and women's empowerment training started this fiscal year



We hoped you enjoyed this first half-yearly snapshot from the Cocoa Horizons Foundation. If you'd like any further information about our approach, methodology or in-country progress, please get in touch.

You can expect our year-end report in January 2017.