

The National Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa in Europe

2023 working groups, task forces & learning events



The National Initiatives on Sustainable Cocoa in Europe (ISCOs) have created five workstreams, reflecting the common challenges identified in their Memorandum of Understanding: traceability & transparency, living income, forests & agroforestry, child labour, and monitoring & evaluation.

For each work stream a **working group** was created which aims to foster peer learnings and support members in reaching their commitments. These ISCO working groups are an important addition (and in some cases replacement) to national working groups and fora.

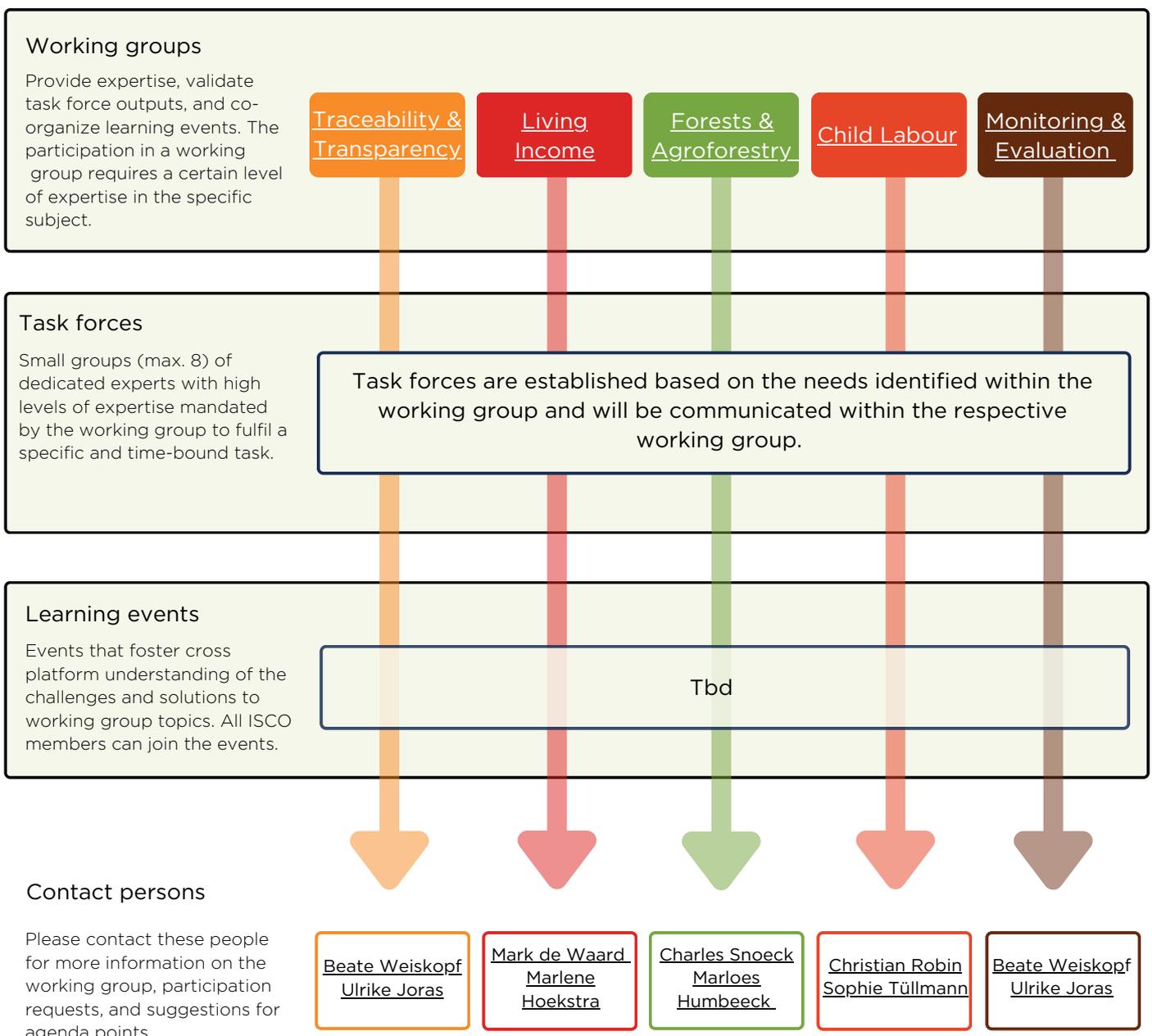
Within a working group, several **task forces** can be created. These are small groups of dedicated experts with a high level of expertise that work on a specific time-bound task. The creation of task forces will be decided within the working groups. The ISCOs might additionally organize larger in person learning conferences.

In this document, you will find more information on the five workstreams, helping you as a member establish how you can contribute to the joint ISCO efforts. You will also find a joint calendar with the planned 2023 working groups. In case of questions on a specific working group, please reach out to the respective contact persons, as indicated below.

Overview

Find out more about each working group's outcomes and goals by clicking on the working group of interest in the below visual. You will be directed to the Terms of Reference of the working group.

In case of questions, please send a mail to the contact persons for the working group in question by clicking their name in the visual below.



Working group composition

Each working group consists of a balanced representation of members from the four platforms and stakeholder groups. All interested members with a certain level of expertise on the topic of the WG are welcome to join. Experts from producing countries are actively invited to participate.

The ISCO WGs are co-led by two members with acknowledged expertise which were validated by WG participants. Co-leads are up for election every year so don't hesitate to reach out to the relevant secretariat in case of interest. The Terms of Reference of WG co-leads can be found [here](#).

Task force composition

Task forces will be created when the need for one is identified within a WG. Interested WG members will be given the chance to apply to become part of a task force. Task forces aim for a maximum of 8 members, with a good representation of each stakeholder group. A high level of expertise on the task force topic is required.

Interested in joining a working group?

Please reach out to the contact persons identified above to register. If you were already registered for one or more working groups last year, you do not need to do it again.

Timeline & Frequency

Each WG will convene two-three times a year and will be max. 2 hours long. Preparatory time for the consultation of tools and documents is required. Task forces can convene multiple times per year, depending on the assignment.

Date & Time* (CET)	Activity
February 7th 10h-12h	WG Monitoring
March 23rd 15h-16h30	WG Child Labour
April 13th 13h-15h	WG Living Income
April 20th 15h-16h30	WG Forests & Agroforestry
May 31st 13h-15h	WG Traceability
September 7th 10h-12h	WG Monitoring
September 14th All day event	WG Child Labour
October 12th 13h-15h	WG Living Income
November 15th tbd	WG Traceability
November 22nd 15h-16h30	WG Forests & Agroforestry