



Roadmap: Solidaridad Deutschland e.V

Background

At the 2022 General Meeting of the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (GISCO), it was decided that the preparation of individual roadmaps by each GISCO member and annual public reporting on commitments and milestones included in these roadmaps is a valuable and mandatory contribution to achieve [GISCO's objectives](#).

In addition to the monitoring and based on the [GISCO roadmap](#) which lists the goals, targeted indicators and recommendations for action of the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa on the focus topics of certified/independently verified cocoa, traceability, deforestation/agroforestry, child labor and living income, the members of GISCO draw up individual roadmaps on these focus topics, which are published on the GISCO website.

More information on the individual roadmaps can be found in the [background document](#).

Commitments

- [Traceability](#)
- [Certification and independent verification](#)
- [Entwaldung/Agroforstwirtschaft](#)
- [Child Labour](#)
- [Living Income](#)



Traceability

By 2025 Cocoa farmers in Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Sierra Leona have equitable access to digital market intelligence and increased bargaining power through a digital traceability platform for market and trade intelligence.

Commitment:

In our projects, we work towards traceable and transparent supply chains. In our global network, we develop innovative digital traceability solutions and work with partners on piloting and implementation.

Milestone:

By 2025, 1200 cocoa farmers are digitally connected to new Traceability Tools, hereby improving their bargaining position.

Milestone:

By 2025, 1 new disruptive traceability tool COCOA TRACE co-developed and in place

Challenge:

For Solidaridad to influence the agenda and priorities of key decision makers: currently brands, and farmers put less importance on sustainability as they focus on economic and physical survival.

Possible support:

GISCO can support our mission and facilitate our involvement and engagement within GISCO and its networks in order for Solidaridad to keep the dialogue with brands to make sure we respond directly when needed.

Certification and independent verification

- *Certification has not shown to be a systemic solution to unsustainable cocoa.*
- *Almost all of the sector wide efforts in cocoa reach only those farmers who are loosely organised in cooperatives.*
- *The majority of farmers however are not organised and are not being reached.*

Commitment:

In our projects, we work towards establishing traceable and transparent supply chains and go beyond certification where possible or else support farmers' certification against leading sustainability standards.

Challenge:

While many studies analyzed effects of sustainability standards, such as Fairtrade or Rainforest Alliance most did not sufficiently find systematic differences between certified and non-certified farmers. The sector has come to realize that voluntary corporate social responsibility initiatives by companies alone cannot prevent human rights violations and environmental degradation and that the systemic failure of voluntary initiatives gives strong evidence that legislative measure on ecological and human rights due diligence are needed. As a result, in December 2019 a group of companies (Barry Callebaut AG, Mars Wrigley and Mondelez International, the VOICE Network and voluntary standards (Rainforest Alliance and Fairtrade called on the European Union to strengthen human rights and environmental due diligence requirements of companies in global supply chains.

Possible support: Join forces with leading companies and the VOICE Network to lobby for stronger EU legislation, align GISCO agenda with other ISCOs to move beyond certification.



Deforestation/Agroforestry

Until 2025 and beyond, Solidaridad will continue to implement of good climate smart agricultural practices and regenerative agriculture (i.e. agroforestry and carbon sequestration) and tree planting in Western African cocoa communities).

Commitment:

In our projects, we systematically integrate regenerative agriculture and agroforestry approaches. At policy level and with our partner, we advocate for deforestation-free supply chains and adequate legislation.

Milestone:

Objectives/milestones are not formulated specifically per commodity but rather per region/ country thus these milestones also include Palm Oil besides Cocoa.

Challenge:

Changes in climatic conditions could affect producer organisations, productivity and economic feasibility of cocoa and the project at large.

Possible support: GISCO can support the joint programming with GISCO members of the enhanced coordination and cooperation amongst farmers to build resilience towards climate risks. Further, by supporting member's activities to establish strong cooperatives or to lobby government to support and enforce climate change policies.

Child Labour

By 2025 living income for cocoa farmers, the elimination of child labour has been put strongly on the agenda of public and private policy makers.

Commitment:

We collaborate in multiple alliances (e.g. European NGOs, VOICE, Ghanaian stakeholders, private sector partnerships and others to address and end child labour.

Milestone:

By 2025, 2 new private sector policies were developed, that address Child Labour, fair value, deforestation and women inclusion.

Milestone:

By 2025, 15 dialogues initiative, strengthened or joined to engage Civil Society and Civil Society's agenda in debate with public and private decision makers.

Challenge:

MSIs and networks are often not well aligned and tend to take different approaches and develop different end goals that do not match with each other. Thus, institutional synergies are limited.

Possible support: GISCO can support the advocacy work at political level (consuming and producing countries (with regard to ending child labour).



Living Income

Note: 2023, an examination under German cartel law took place on the question of whether individual roadmaps on living income may be drawn up and published. The Bundeskartellamt did not see the need for a detailed examination under cartel law on this issue. Based on the Bundeskartellamt's feedback, it was decided at the special General meeting on 17 June that members of member groups B and C would submit a roadmap on the topic of living income by 31 December 2024. Until then, commitments on living income can be submitted voluntarily.

By 2025 and beyond Solidaridad engages to move cocoa and chocolate companies in Europe to commit to and implement measures for a living income for cocoa farmers

Commitment:

Solidaridad works with companies to move towards living income, via sharing good practices, providing research and advice and launching campaigns.

Milestone:

By 2025 living income for farmers has been put strongly on the agenda of public and private policy makers

Milestone:

Cocoa and chocolate companies in Europe commit to and implement measure for a living income for cocoa farmers

Challenge:

MSIs and networks are often not well aligned and tend to take different approaches or develop different end goals that do not match with each other. Thus, institutional synergies are limited.

Possible support: GISCO should support alignment and agreement on a shared definition of living income amongst their membership and integrate living income as part of their binding membership commitments for companies with a clear strategy and timed roadmap for implementation and monitoring of progress.