

Kick off: Task Force Living Income

updated 13.02.2026



Forum Nachhaltiger Kakao
German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa



Introduction of Taskforce Participants

Government

Alexander Bernet

Ann-Kathrin Binot



Industry Members

Rupert Day

Anders Saxbol



Retailers

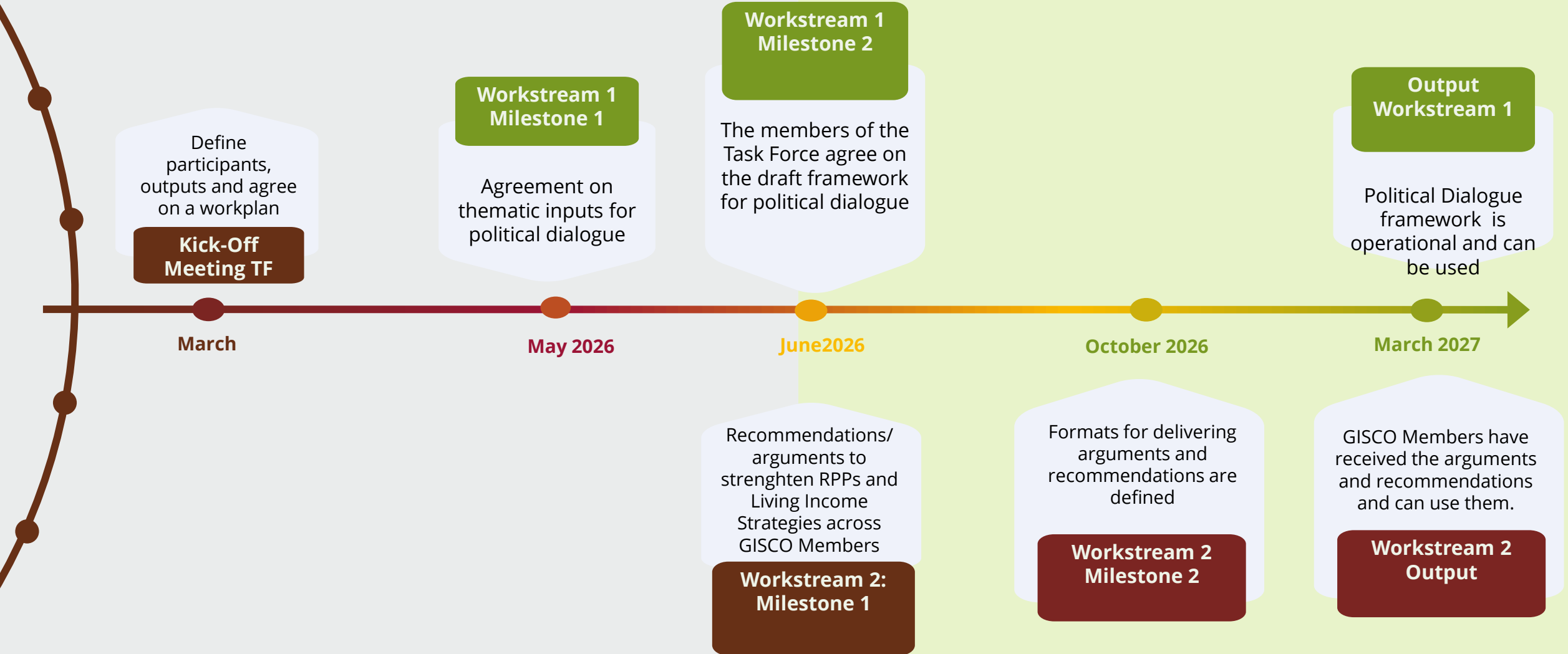
Retailer WG is dissolved in June/
July 2026

Civil Society

Sandra Brück



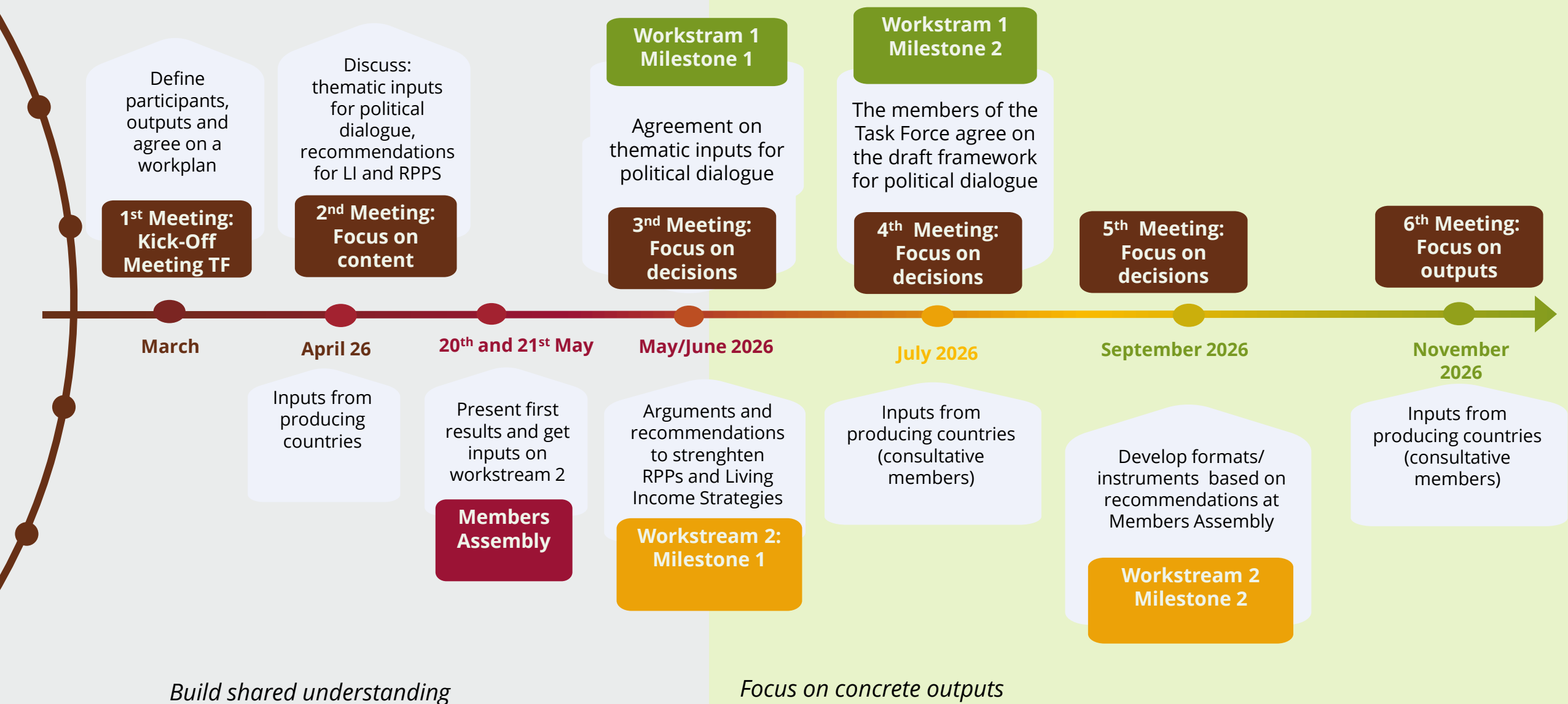
Timelines Milestones/Outputs 2026/2027



Build shared understanding

Focus on concrete outputs

Workplan and Meetings in 2026



Thematic Workstream 1: Addressing systemic barriers for LI through political dialogue



*Roadmaps,
Monitoring
Relevant research*

Joint Understanding of important external barriers for living income (outside of GISCO members' direct influence)

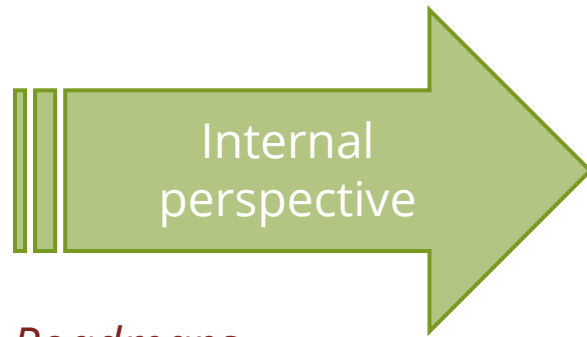
Step 1: What are the most important external barriers limiting farmers to reach a living incomes?

Step 2: Which of these can and should be addressed by political decision-makers?

Step 3: What inputs do GISCO members want to feed into political dialogue processes on these barriers?



Thematic Workstream 2: Strengthening GISCO Members Strategies on Living Income



*Roadmaps,
Monitoring,
Feedback from
Members Assembly
Relevant research*

Build joint understanding on what is needed to scale Smart Mix Living Income Strategies and Sustainable Procurement.

Step 1: What are the most **important internal barriers** that limit companies to implement smart mix living income strategies (including sustainable procurement)?

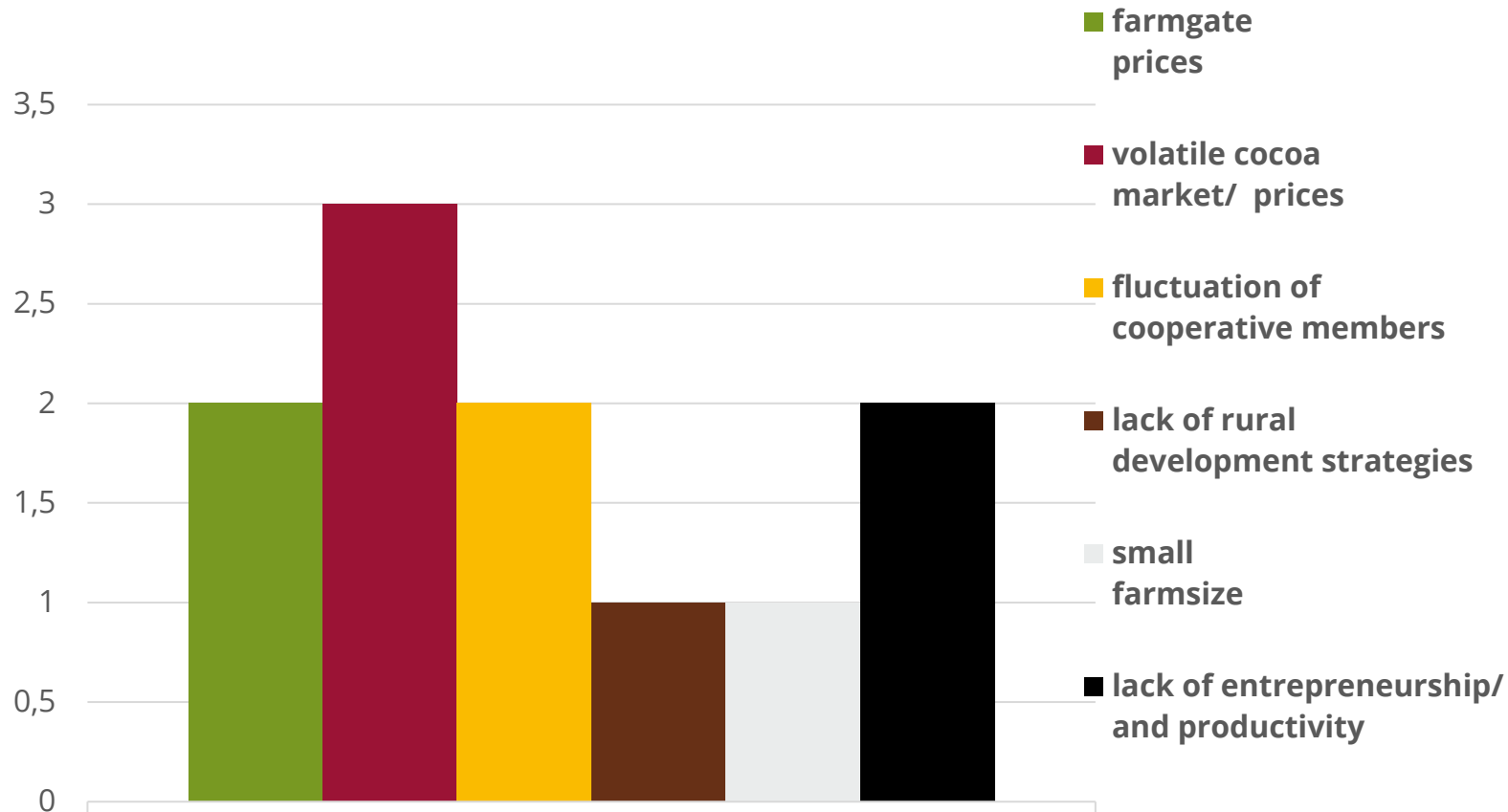
Step 2: Which of **these barriers can and should we address** to support members with the implementation of the smart mix of Living Income Strategies?

Step 3: What **recommendations do we want to give GISCO members** to strengthen implementation of LI Strategies and sustainable procurement?

Step 3: What **instruments/ formats should we develop?** (inputs form Members Assembly)



External barriers for living income - Roadmaps Analysis



What are the most important external barriers?

...
...

Which of these barriers can and should be addressed by political decisionmakers?

....
....



Volatile cocoa prices



Near 3000 USD/t in the week of the 23rd February

Over the past month, Cocoa's price has fallen 27.72%, and is down **62.37% compared to the same time last year.**

[Source: Cocoa - Price - Chart - Historical Data - News](#)

Current farm gate prices, terminal market, and Fairtrade LIRP prices



	Farmgate price in CIV	FT LIRP CIV <i>(from October 2025)</i>	Farmgate price in Ghana	FT LIRP Ghana <i>(from October 2025)</i>	Terminal market
Last update	March 4, 2025	January 2025	February 12, 2026	January 2025	March 04, 2025
Price per tonne					
Local currency	1.200.000 FCFA	1.736.000 FCFA	41.392 Cedis	42.400 Cedis	
USD	2.127 USD	2.800 USD	3.856 USD	2.680 USD	
Pounds	1.591 Pounds		2.885 Pfund		2.141 Pfund (ICE London)
EUR	1829 EUR	2.200 EUR	3.316 EUR		
% of terminal market price (ICE London)	74%		135%		
% of FT LIRP	69%		98%		

Sources:

- [2025_lirp_cocoa_ghana_cdi_explanatory_note_FINAL_49c4c3925c.pdf](#)
- [Statistics - International Cocoa Organization](#)
- [Ghana cuts farmgate cocoa price, introduces new financing model | Reuters](#)



Farm size and productivity

42%

Based on the Fairtrade Cocoa Household Income Study 2024 in Côte d'Ivoire, 42% of farmers reach the **productivity benchmark of 664kg per ha** used for the calculation of the LIRP. The median yield is 600kg per ha

13%

Just 13% of the full sample of farmers have a cocoa area of 4.6 hectares or larger, with the median cocoa area for farmers in the sample **being 3.00 hectares** (average 3.15 hectares).



Impact Farmgateprices on living income

Table 14: Development of farmer household income distribution between original and updated results
The median farmer lies in the **green** cells, while the average farmer lies in the **yellow** cells.

Indicator	Unit	Original	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Less than 0 EUR/household	%	0%	0%	0%
0 to extreme poverty line	%	26%	12%	7%
Above extreme poverty line up to poverty line	%	34%	25%	19%
Above poverty line up to living income	%	34%	50%	50%
Above living income	%	7%	13%	24%

- **Price Original:** 950 CFA/kg
- **Scenario 1:** 1650 CFA/kg
- **Scenario 2: 2200 CFA/kg**, currently we have a farmgate price of 2800 CFA/kg

Source:
[20250812 Cocoa Household Income Study 2024](#), p.58

Relevant stakeholders for political dialogue



Organisations that can provide expert knowledge/ data

- LICOP
- WCF
- GIZ
- KIT/ Wageningen University
- University Bern
- University Wien

- Voice Network
- Fairtrade
- Producer organisations
- Industry

- **Local Consultative members:** ALISOS, IDEF, INADES C-I

Potential Spokespersons for GISCO

- GISCO Board Members
- German Ministries

Political actors to be addressed

- Westafrica:
- Conseil du Café Cacao
 - COCOBOD
 - Côte d'Ivoire Ghana Cocoa Initiative
 - Ministries of Agriculture
 - Interprofessional Agricultural Organisation (OIA)

Latinamerica:

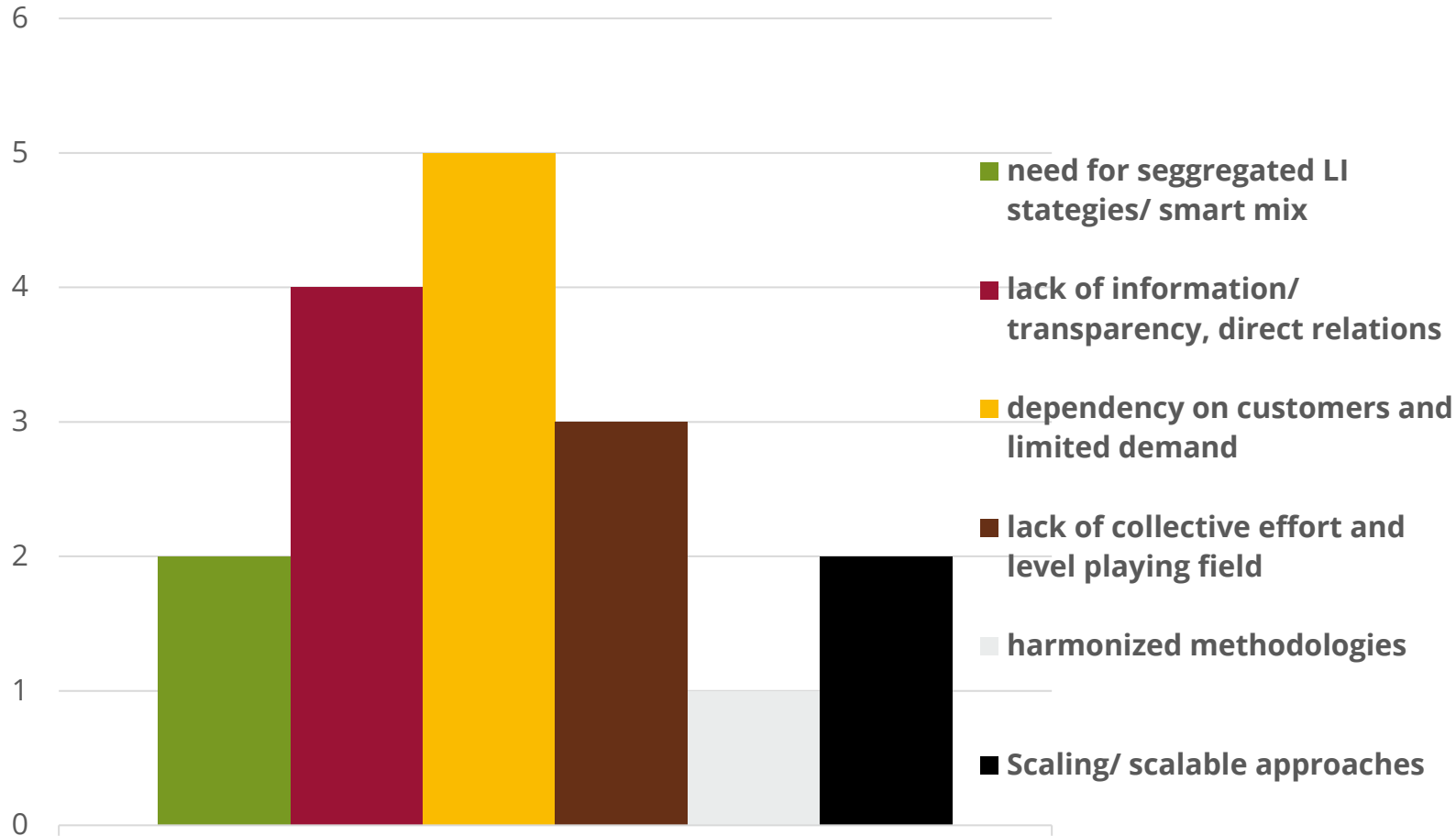
- ??

Other relevant influential actors to consider

- ICCO
- EU
- ...



Internal barriers for living income Roadmap Analysis



What are the most important internal barriers?

...
...

Which of these barriers can and should be addressed by GISCO?

....
....



Current implementation of living income strategies - Analysis of Roadmaps



53%



46%

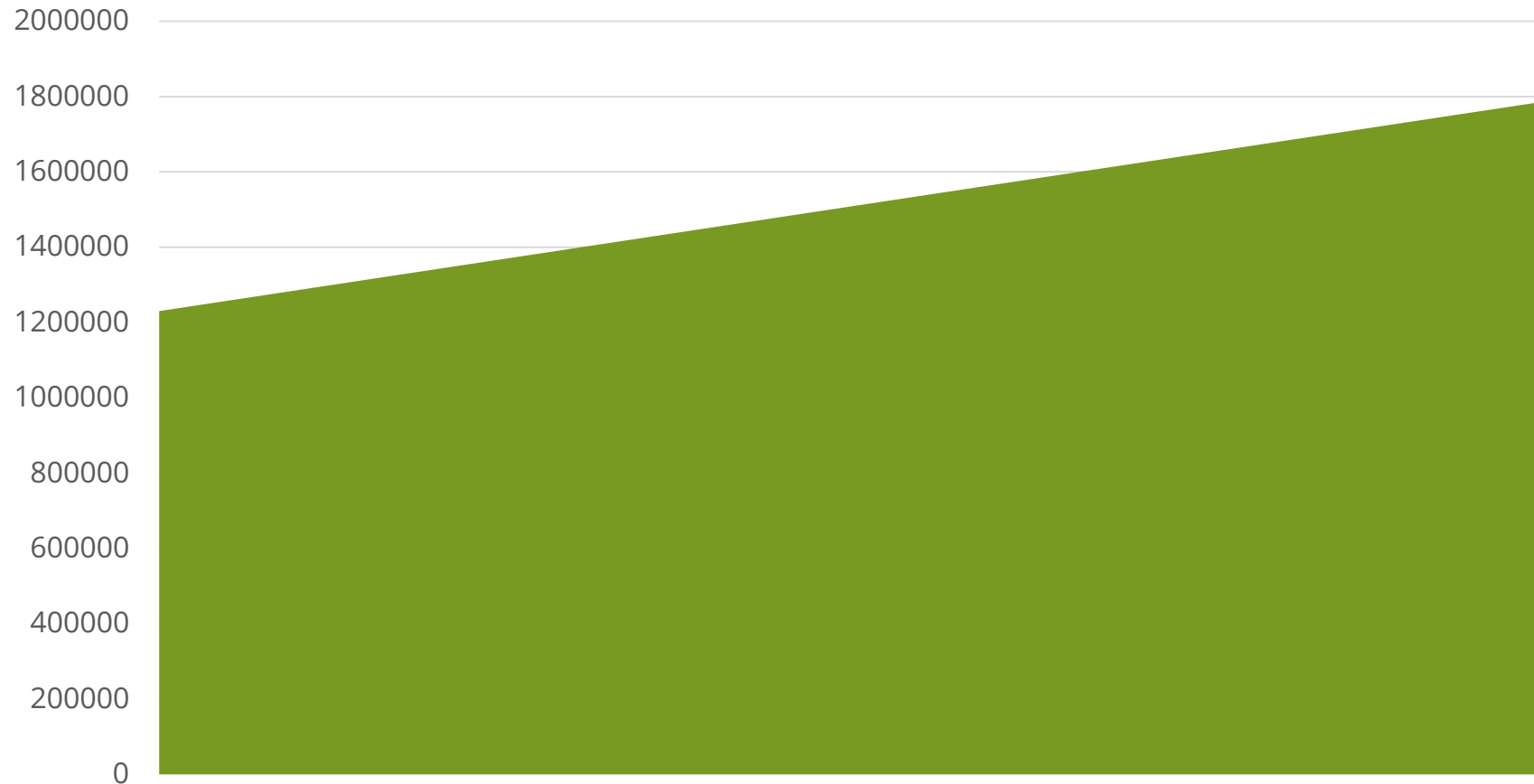


34%



Projects/ Programmes mentioned in LI Roadmaps

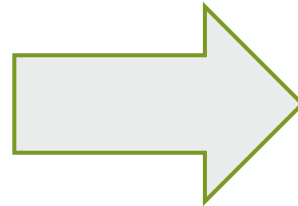
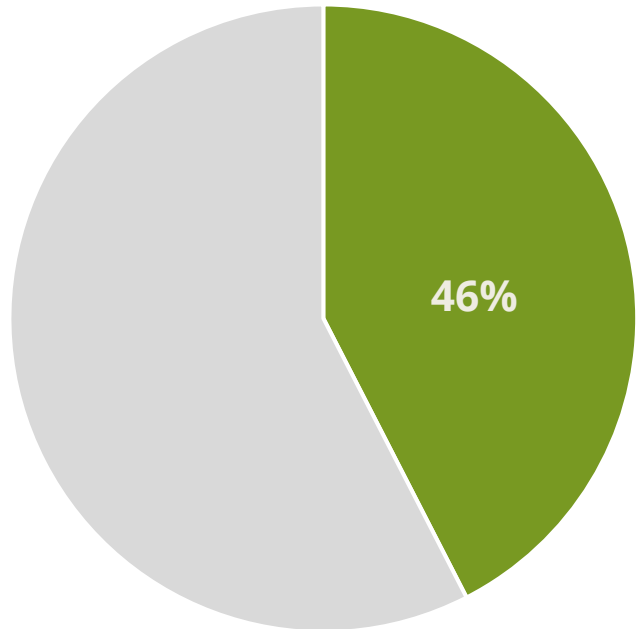
From 1.23 to 1.79 Mio. farming families that will be reached by 2030



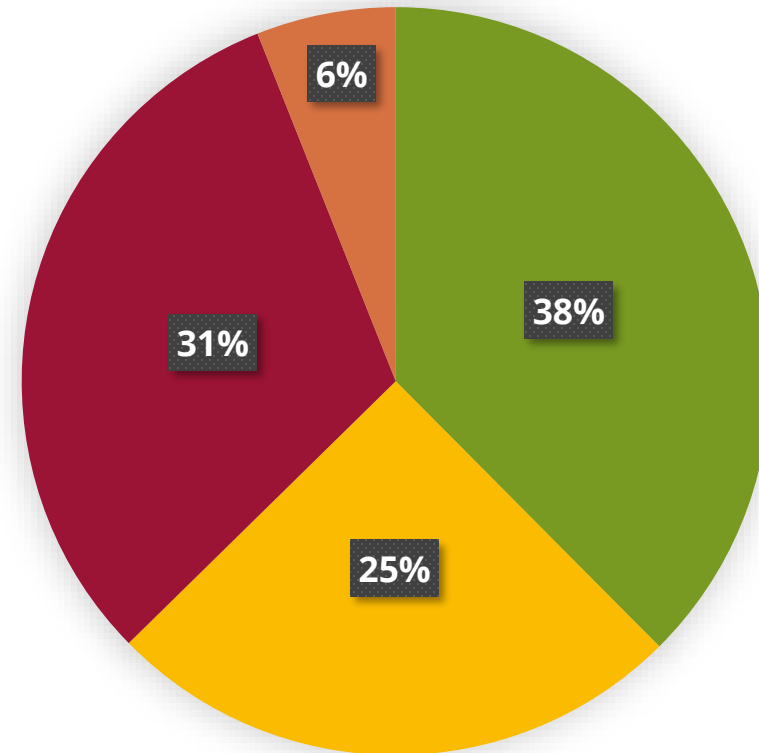


Elements of Purchasing Practices

Financial component



Prices, premiums, cash transfers



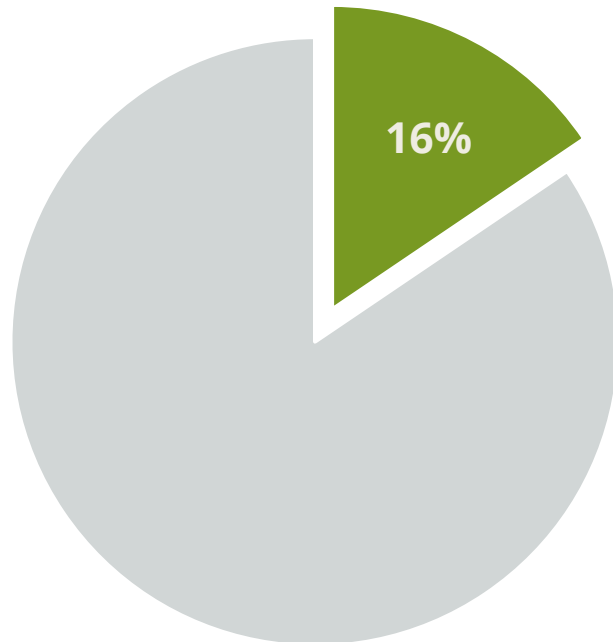
- prices/ LIRP
- cash transfers
- premiums
- cash transfers and premiums

■ Commitment/ Milestone related to financial aspects of procurement (prices, premiums, cash transfers)



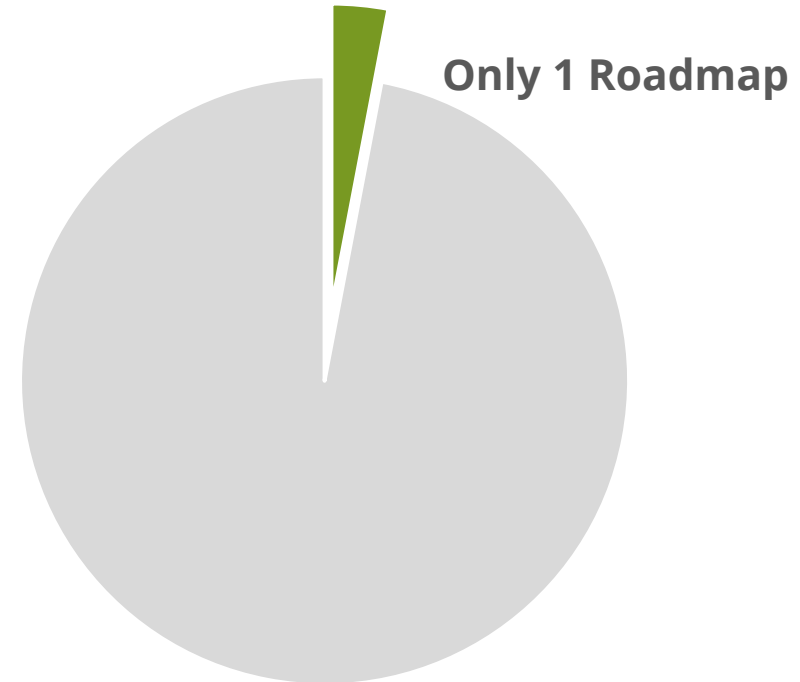
Elements of Purchasing Practices

Longer term agreements



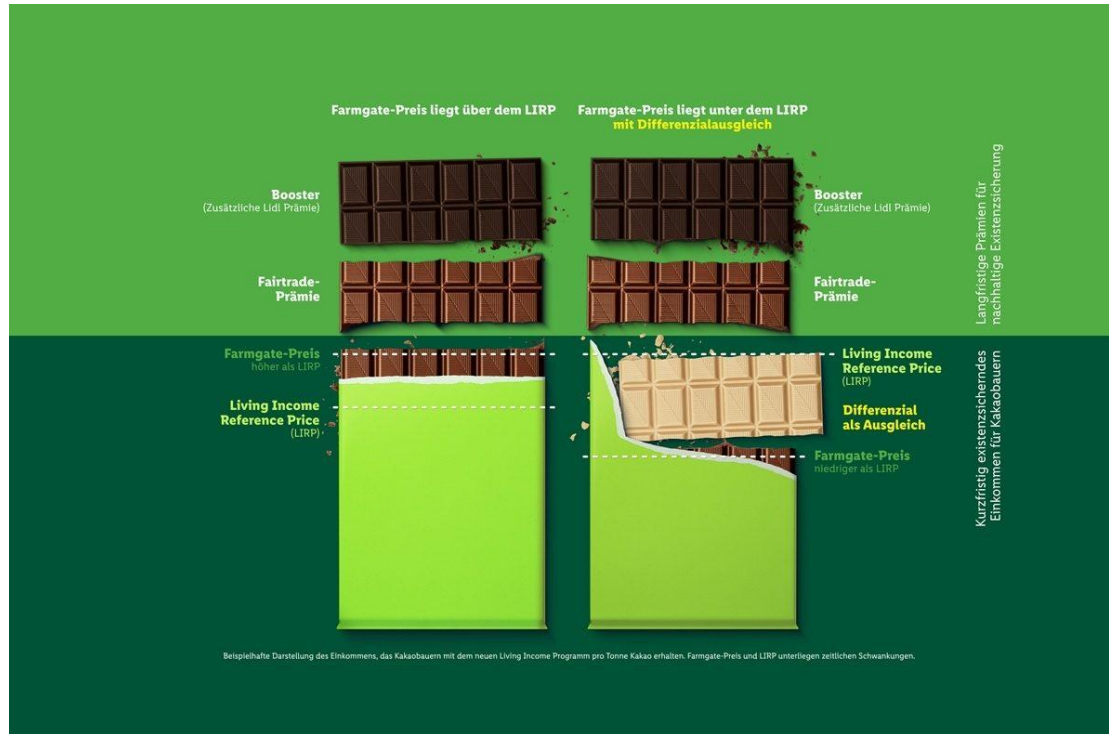
■ Commtiment/ Meilenstein zu langfristigen Beziehungen

Punctual and on-time payments



■ Commtiment/ Meilenstein zu pünktlicher Bezahlung

New: Living Income Commitment: LIDL



© LIDL

Starting in March 2026, Lidl and Fairtrade will launch a partnership in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Austria for the chocolate bars of the **private labels Fin Carré, J.D. Gross, and Vemondo** on living income.

Lidl has committed to paying **the Fairtrade Living Income Price, Fairtrade premium and the Living Income Booster.**

Sources:

- [Lidl plant großes Fairtrade-Programm: Wer hat die fairste Schokolade? - Wirtschaft - SZ.de](https://www.wirtschaft-sz.de/news/2025/03/lidl-plant-groesses-fairtrade-programm-wer-hat-die-fairste-schokolade/)
- [Faire Löhne, gewohnter Preis: Lidl stellt Tafelschokoladen der Eigenmarken auf Living Income-Programm um - Lidl Deutschland](https://www.lidl.de/pressenotizen/2025/03/01/lidl-stellt-tafelschokoladen-der-eigenmarken-auf-living-income-programm-um)



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