

International Cocoa Initiative

Switzerland

pledges to

Tackle child labour in the cocoa sector in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire

Name:

Tackling child labour in the cocoa sector in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire

Description:

According to the most recent studies approximately 1.56 million children are involved in child labour in the cocoa sector in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. ICI is a multi-stakeholder initiative that tackles child labour and forced labour in cocoa-growing communities by uniting the forces of the cocoa and chocolate industry, civil society, farming communities, governments, international organizations and donors. Research shows that where cocoa-growing communities have been supported by systems and interventions that are being rolled out to prevent and address child labour, child labour has fallen. Our pledge focuses on scaling up those systems to cover more of the cocoa supply chain: "ICI and its members pledge that by the end of 2021, at least 540 000 cocoa-growing households in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana will be covered by systems that effectively prevent and address child labour as part of corporate human rights due to diligence efforts, representing approximately 30% of the cocoa supply chain in those countries. This pledge is one step towards a much larger ICI ambition to help ensure that 100% of the cocoa supply chain is covered by 2025."

Implementation plan:

We will support our members to align around emerging good practices, and to implement and embed effective systems that prevent and address child labour in cocoa-growing communities while innovating to continuously improve the efficiency and impact of such systems.

Impact:

Studies show that, where specific programmes designed to tackle child labour have been in place for more than 3 years, child labour has fallen by a third. However, such programs only cover a small portion of the supply chain. Today, our focus is on working to scale up the coverage of these systems so that support reaches all those in need.

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