

CHILD PROTECTION IN COCOA-GROWING COMMUNITIES

Child-Centred Community Development is an essential counterpart to productivity investments for cocoa sustainability.

Facts

- More boys (60%) than girls (40%) are engaged in child labour in cocoa-growing communities.
- In Côte d'Ivoire, 98% of child labourers in the agricultural sector work on their family farm.
- In the cocoa sector, children in the age group 14-17 years are more likely to be engaged in child labour.
- Out of every 10 children in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, 1-2 children are engaged in child labour.
- The average distance to the nearest junior secondary school for children in ICI-surveyed communities in Côte d'Ivoire is 20.9km.

Good Practice: Child Labour Prevention

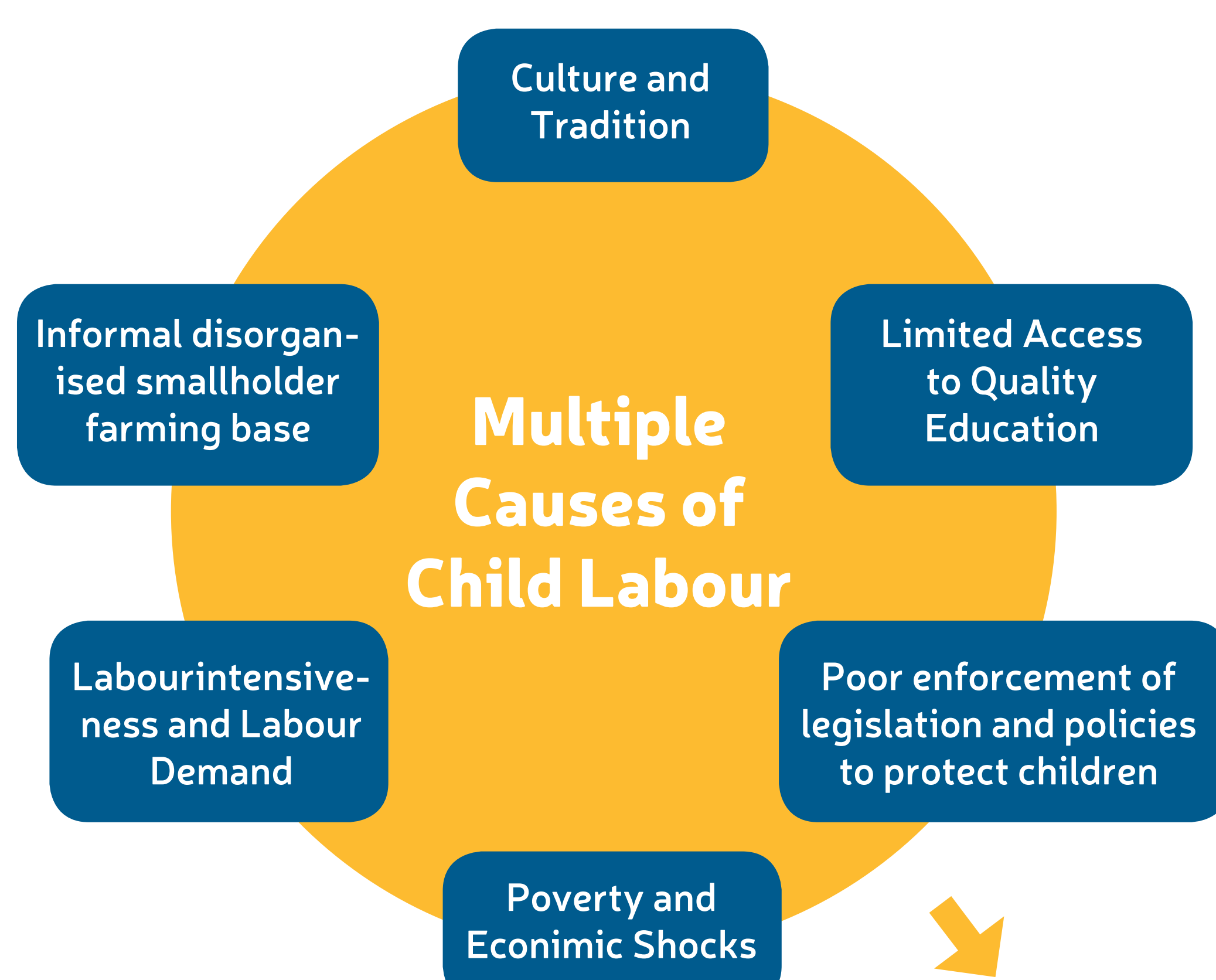
Child-Centred Community Development is an essential counterpart to productivity investments for cocoa sustainability, ensuring that increases in income are combined with empowerment and improved access to basic services.

Lessons Learnt on Child-Centred Community Development

- Community awareness-raising is an essential building block, but in isolation can be disincentivising, so must be accompanied by tangible change in community capacities and services.
- Building partnerships with local governments, businesses and civil society can increase empowerment, ownership and generate resources to meet children's needs in a coordinated and holistic manner. In 2013, 44% of ICI-community initiative support (payment or in-kind) was from local government partnerships and the communities.



- Improved access to quality education and vocational training is important in reducing child labour but is often insufficient on its own to ensure children's non-participation in child labour or hazardous tasks. An ICI survey found that most children engaged in child labour attended school for all of the 5 days preceding the interview.
- Articulation, resourcing and implementation of community development plans which prioritise child welfare, can deliver tangible improvements in gender empowerment and child protection. However, community child protection structures must be representative and women, children and the youth should participate in community decision-making.



Demand for a holistic approach to Child Protection that identifies, prevents and responds to multiple context-specific causes of child labour development risks.

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CHILD PROTECTION: CHILD LABOUR RESPONSE AND MONITORING

Good Practice: Responding to Child Labour

To effectively respond to the child labour risk there must be a clear understanding of the problem across the supply chain, with appropriate capacities and systems developed to prevent, identify and respond to child protection risks.

Case study: ICI-Nestle, Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System pilot (Côte d'Ivoire)

The objective of the Nestlé Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) is to ensure an improved identification and monitoring of child labour related-risks for Nestlé Cocoa Plan coops in order to implement remediation activities targeted to at-risk individuals and households as well as preventive investments at community level.

The main elements of the CLMRS are:

1) the identification of child labour cases 2) on-going protection and prevention through awareness raising and 3) remediation activities for identified cases or vulnerable children. Remediation activities at individual level notably focus on school enrolment, vocational training, provision of school kits and birth certificates. Women are also supported to set up income-generating activities and service groups are trained to undertake farming activities for households.

Lessons Learnt on responding to child labour

- To avoid the problem being hidden, child labour monitoring must be linked to remediation activities that assist identified cases.
- Scalability and sustainability will depend on minimising costs, for instance by building systems into existing supply-chain management or community structures.

Good Practice: Monitoring Child Labour

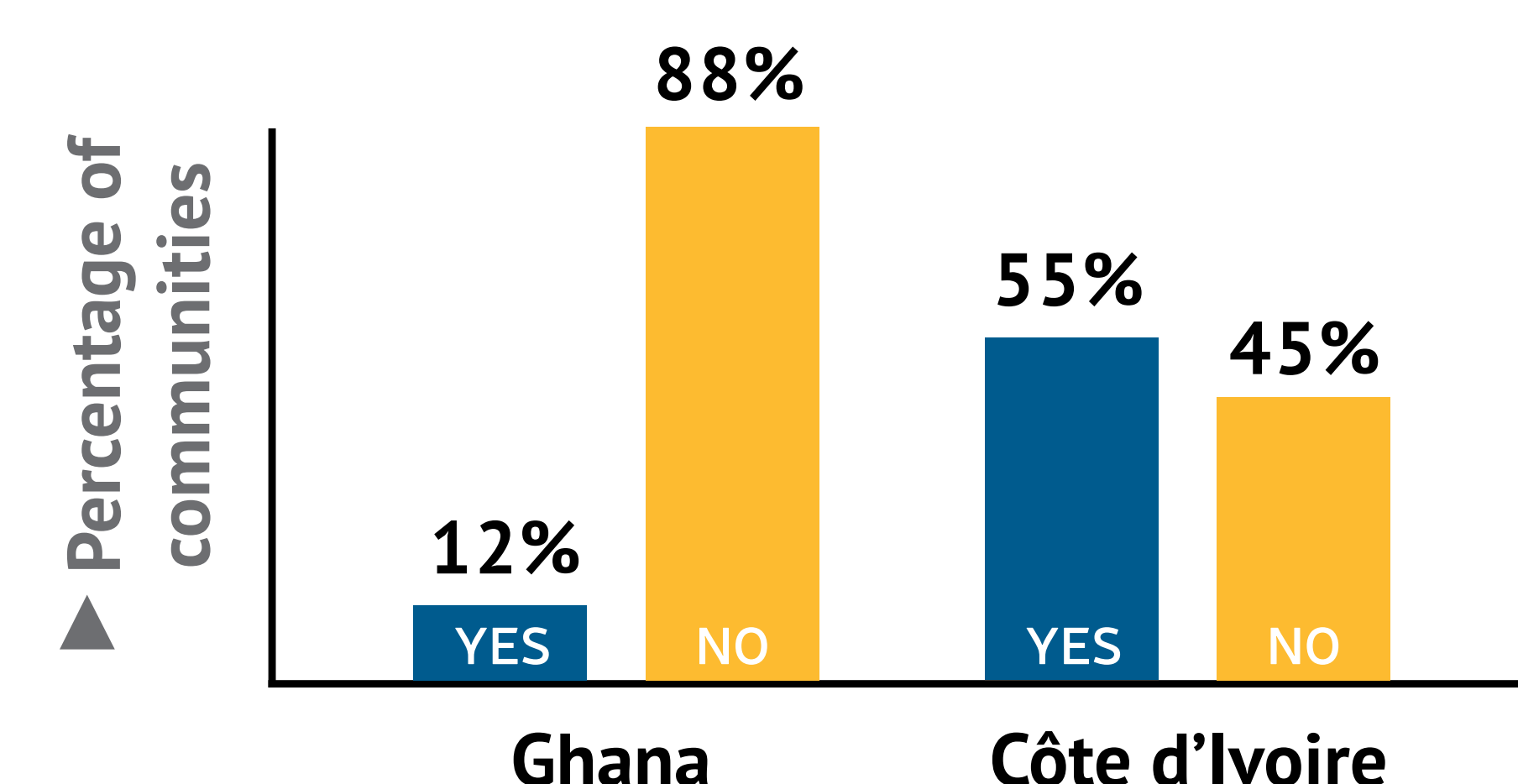
It is costly and difficult to measure the child labour incidence at community level. Community risk profiling can measure and monitor proxy indicators that are easier to track, and can quantify levels of child protection to help design appropriate interventions and to assess impact.

Tool: The ICI Protective Cocoa Community Framework (PCCF)

ICI's PCCF is an analytical tool which allows ICI to estimate the level of protectiveness of each community where it intervenes based on the conditions, features, and availability of services within a community that are most conducive to protecting children. Communities that are most at risk of children's engagement in child labour can thus be identified, appropriate programming responses can be designed, and the programme impact can be measured over time. 'For example, 13 out of the 235 cocoa-growing communities in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana surveyed by ICI during 2013, had no access to a kindergarten, a primary school, a junior secondary school, vocational training opportunities nor safe water for their children. This prompted ICI to enter these communities and start community development work'.



Presence of Primary Health Centres



► Responses

Sources

Assouan (2008) Rapport d'Enquête Initiale de Diagnostic Nationale Relatif au Travail dans la Cacaoculture. République de Côte d'Ivoire - Union-Discipline-Travail.

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THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN IN WEST-AFRICAN COCOA COMMUNITIES

Education is key to the future of cocoa communities in West-Africa. However, school attendance rates are low and dropout rates high, especially among girls.

Why?

- School attendance and enrolment rates are around 60 to 80 % for primary schools and around 30 to 50 % for secondary schools in most countries (UNICEF, 2014). Long distances to schools, low parental support and capacity problems prevented children from attending schools, while financial barriers to birth registration excluded migrant groups from sending their children to school (KIT, 2014).
- 20 – 40 % of children in West-Africa do not reach the last primary grade and drop out on the way (UNICEF, 2014).
- Improving school attendance might lead to reductions in child labour. A study among Ivorian children showed that school attendance was 34 % for children participating in all cocoa tasks, while attendance for children not working on the family cocoa farm rose to 64 %. (IITA, 2002)
- In Nigeria, Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire, school attendance rates are higher among boys than girls (UNICEF, 2014). In the first grade of the two primary schools of Amelekia (CI), 60,6 % were boys and only 39,4 % were girls (KIT, 2014).
- Dropout rates in Ivorian primary schools are 38.2 % for boys and 40.6 % for girls (UNICEF, 2009). The study in Amelekia showed that early pregnancies were a major cause for dropouts among young women in vocational training (KIT, 2014).

Best practices

Specific Age-Group Education & Empowerment System

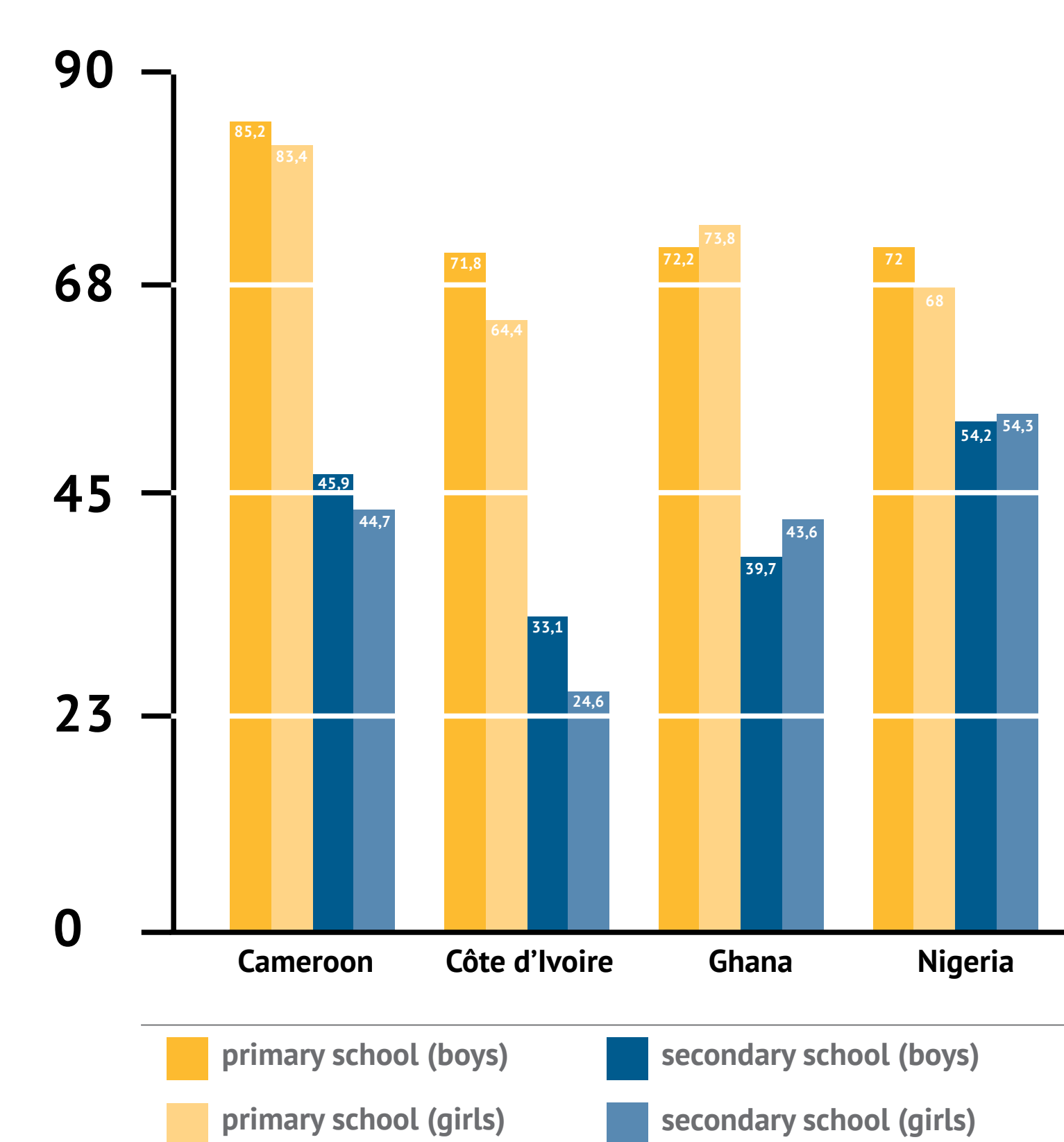
A pilot program, the (SAGE²S), targets Amelekia, a cocoa growing community in the East of Cote d'Ivoire. It aims at empowering young women and girls in rural communities, in three different age groups, through agricultural and food practices and in micro-enterprise development. SAGE²S is a collaboration between WCF, ADM, IECD and KIT. A first step was a situational analysis. This analysis has informed the project on how to address these issues and promote education opportunities for young women in cocoa communities in Côte d'Ivoire, Amelekia.

Nestlé Cocoa Plan

Lack of schools means children not getting an education or walking a long way to schools, and existing schools overcrowded with >55 per class. Getting girls educated is first step to helping next generation of women, and kids out of child labour. Nestlé committed to build 40 schools in 4 years and has now completed 23. Nestlé works with the community to seek their assistance in building the schools and in creating school management committees. Some schools have been set up with school kitchen gardens to provide some income for the schools and help teach practical skills.



Graph: School attendance ratio for primary and secondary schools in West-Africa (2008-2012)



Sources

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IITA (2002). Child labor in the Cocoa Sector of West Africa: a synthesis of findings in Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria. Report, August 2002. IITA, Ibadan, Nigeria.

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INCREASING COCOA QUALITY BY ACKNOWLEDGING THE ROLE OF WOMEN

The big challenge: How to involve women to improve quality of cocoa whilst (1) making sure they benefit from improved quality and (2) without overburdening them with extra tasks?

Why?

- Understanding and recognizing women’s share in the production process is the first step towards increasing cocoa quality. Women are responsible for 45 % of the work done on the cocoa farm (Dalberg, 2012) Thus, although men and women conduct different tasks in cocoa production, the time they invest is more or less the same.
- Division of labour: In cocoa communities, men are responsible for the more hazardous and physically demanding tasks, such as pesticide spraying, pruning and harvesting of the cocoa.
- Women are mainly involved in early plant care and post-harvest activities, such as pod-breaking, fermenting and drying. These tasks are key for the quality of the cocoa. The future of high quality cocoa production thus depends on the women involved (Barrientos, 2013)
- Women are less likely to benefit from cocoa revenues: men are in control of marketing the cocoa (UTZ/Solidaridad, 2009), and are more likely to have a cooperative membership. A study among 1000 farmers in Cameroon showed that among married cocoa farmers, 97% of the men were in control of marketing of cocoa (GTZ, 2009).
- Besides working on the cocoa farm, women are involved in household tasks and other work (such as food crop farming and trading). Combining all tasks, men work 49 hours per week on average, while women have an average work week of 63 hours (Vargas Hill and Vigneri, 2011).

Best practices

Nestlé Cocoa Plan:

Nestlé has helped Copaz coop, which was set up by Agathe Vanie to help women in her locality, distribute over 300,000 new cocoa plants from 2009-2014. Agathe Vanie is the president of COPAZ, a cocoa cooperative based in Divo, in central-western Côte d’Ivoire. Agathe led a campaign to demonstrate how the inclusion of women in cocoa farming could not only have a positive impact on their families, but on the country as a whole. In 2010, her 600-woman cooperative joined the Nestlé Cocoa Plan. Nestlé provides them with high-yielding, disease-tolerant cocoa seedlings and technical assistance. The cooperative also received support from Nestlé to buy a new truck for delivering cocoa beans. “In our tradition, cocoa farming was only reserved for men,” she says. “We fought for our rights to some land and the Nestlé Cocoa Plan supports us.

Graph Mapping Gender roles in the cocoa value chain (Barrientos, 2013)

Activities	Women	Men
Weeding and land preparation	Mostly women	Some men
Purchasing of cocoa seeds/seedlings	Some women	Mostly men
Planting	All	All
Intercropping of food crops	Mostly Women	Few men
Cocoa Spraying	Exceptional cases	Mostly men
Thinning and Pruning	Few	Mostly men
Harvesting/plucking	Some women	Mostly men
Pod breaking	All	All
Carrying to homestead/depots	Mostly women	Some men
Fermenting	All	All
Drying and portorage	All	All
Bagging	Some women	Mostly Men
Sale to local buying agencies	Few women	Mostly men



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IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY AND ALLEVIATING POVERTY BY ACKNOWLEDGING THE ROLE OF WOMEN

Gender equality and equity could lead to higher productivity levels and improved rural livelihoods.

Why?

- Both yields and productivity levels are generally lower among female cocoa farmers than among male cocoa farmers. STCP data show that yields (per hectare) of women are on average 61 kg less than that of male farmers. Closing that gender-based yield gap would generate an additional 30,000 mt of cocoa beans (World Bank, 2012).

See Table.

- This is related to a range of barriers women face: lower education levels, smaller and less fertile plots, time constraints due to competing (household) responsibilities and limited access to credit, inputs, equipment and training. For example: in Ghana, the share of female farmers without any education is twice as high as among male cocoa farmers. Also, female cocoa farmers in Ghana use only half as much insecticides as their male counterparts (Hill and Vigneri 2009).

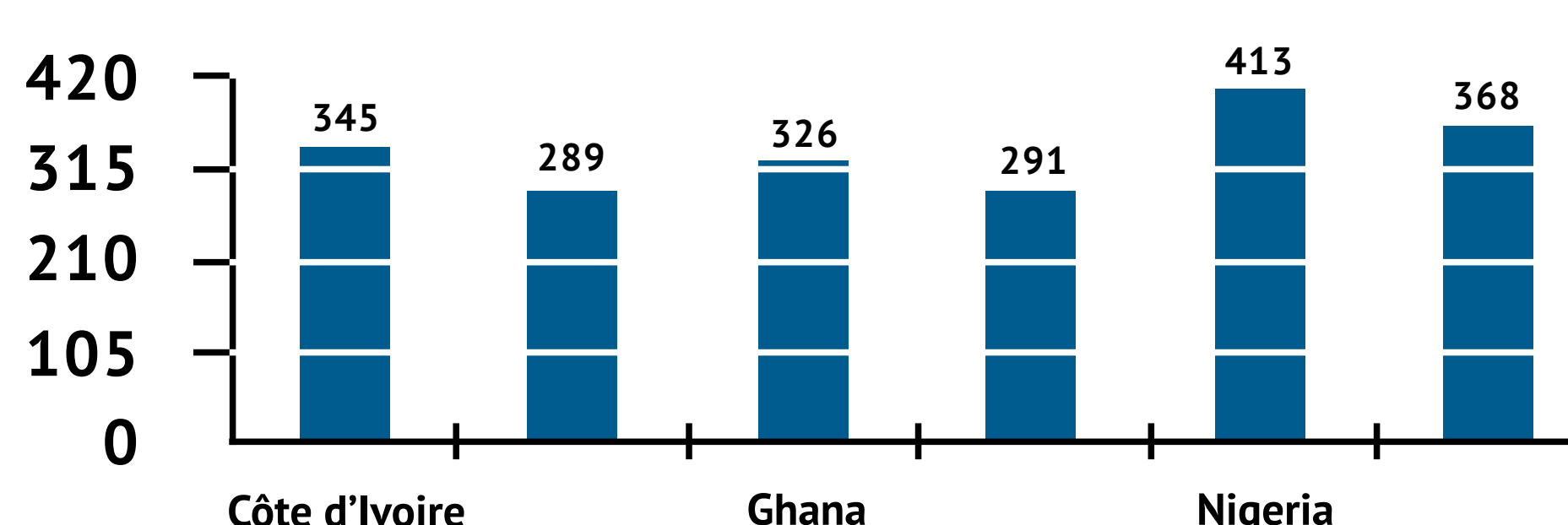
- Women have less access to land and cooperative membership. Although women are part of cocoa farming, as long as they do not own the land they work on, they are often not able to become a member of a cooperative. A consequence is that women have less access to training, credits and inputs.

- Women are less likely to benefit from cocoa revenues: men are in control of marketing the cocoa (UTZ/Solidaridad, 2009). A study among 1000 farmers in Cameroon showed that among married cocoa farmers, 97% of the men were in control of marketing of cocoa (GTZ, 2009).

- Moreover, male farmers often spend large parts of their income on personal rather than on family needs. Whereas virtually all income received by women is spent on household needs. Studies show that improvements in child health and nutrition brought about by a \$10 increase in women's income would require a \$110 increase in men's income to bring about the same improvements (World Bank/FAO/IFAD, 2008).

- Investing in women means investing in the improved livelihood of the whole family. To improve the livelihood of rural families and to alleviate poverty, investing in women has far greater effects than investing in men (DFID, 2011; UNDP, 2010; IMF, 2006 etc). Women, more than men, spend their income on the health, education and nutrition of their family members.

Productivity among West-African cocoa farmers (kg/ha) (Fortson et al. 2011)



Best practices

Cocoa Life: *"We believe gender equality benefits everyone and is essential if cocoa communities are to thrive."*

That's why promoting women's empowerment has been a cross-cutting theme in Cocoa Life since 2008".

In both Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, Cocoa Life takes steps to address gender inequality. Building on Prof. Hiscox and Care International's assessments, a range of actions is identified to further develop our gender work in the five key program areas:

- 1 **Farming:** improving training for female farmers and women working on cocoa farms and increasing women's access to farm inputs, land ownership and membership of farmer organizations.
- 2 **Livelihoods:** increasing access to finance for women, improving literacy and household food security.
- 3 **Community:** empowering women to play an active role in decision making in their households, communities and with district and national farmer forums; engaging women in drawing up Community Action Plans; training community leaders, Cocoa Life implementing partners and Cocoa Life staff in gender awareness, engaging government institutions at district and national level on issues that affect women.



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- 4 **Youth:** promoting women and girls' involvement in the Cocoa Ambassador scheme and community reading clubs.
- 5 **Monitoring and evaluation:** global, high level KPI's and local metrics are designed in response to our commitment to gender mainstreaming for each program objective and focus area. www.cocoalife.org