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Kuapa Kokoo

REDD & The Cocoa Farmer's Perspective

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Intro to Kuapa Kokoo



Kuapa Kokoo is a cocoa farmers cooperative , established in 1993, that works to improve the lot of its members

- **Farmers Unions**
- **Kuapa Kokoo Ltd**
- **Kuapa Kokoo Farmers Trust**
- **Kuapa Kokoo Credit Union**
- **Divine Chocolate Co.**

Mission: To develop Kuapa Kokoo into a formidable farmer based organisation, able to mobilize quality cocoa and cocoa products, improve the members livelihood and satisfy customers.

Who is Kuapa Kokoo?

- Farmer owned
- 68,162 members
- 1481 societies
- 6 cocoa regions and 58 cocoa districts

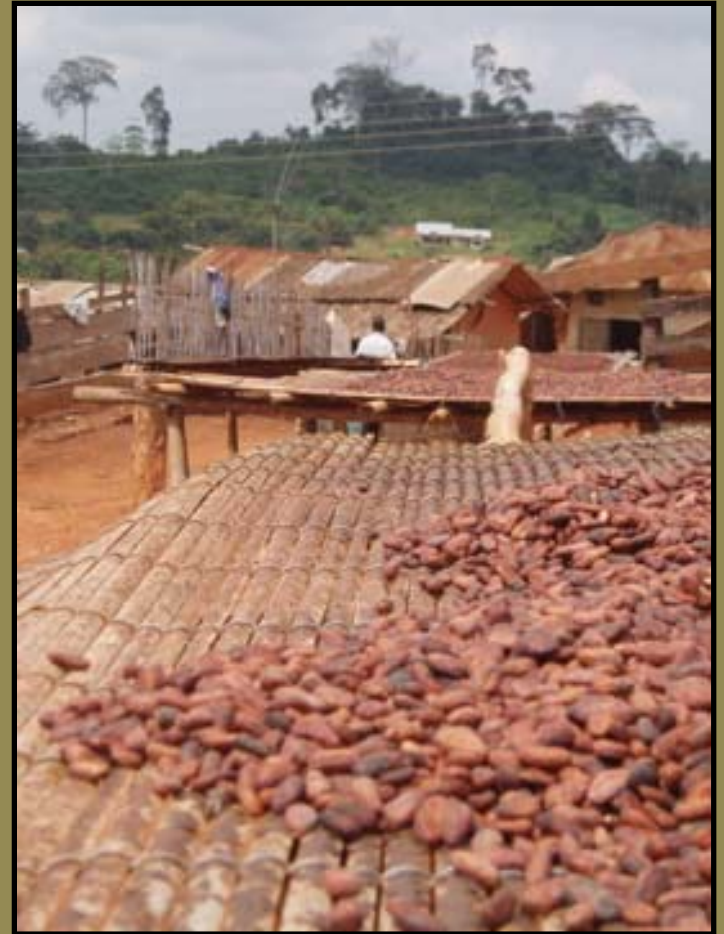


REDD & Realities of the Cocoa Farmer

- Cocoa farming is a challenging agricultural enterprise
- Labor, pests/diseases, climate change, soil fertility all demand **financial** and **physical investments**
- Can be unpredictable and risky
- Farmers need **Productive Farms, Fair Prices, Stable Incomes** and **Sustainable Practices**
- Kuapa farmers interested in opportunities to support sustainable cocoa production and to diversify and bolster incomes

REDD & Realities of the Cocoa Farmer

Carbon payments from
REDD-Plus (avoided
deforestation *and* reforestation)
could offer farmers a
promising and
motivating way to
achieve economic and
environmental goals.



Kuapa's Strength for REDD

- 68,162 cocoa farmers
- Fair Trade certified: significant experience working with standards
- Social cohesion and strong social network
- Capable of disseminating information, sensitizing farmers, and training farmers in farming methods
- Commitment to environmental sustainability



Kuapa's Benefit-Sharing Structure

- Bonuses, access to credit, community development projects,
- Women's enterprise groups
- Carbon-payments
 - Special accounts
 - Committee
 - 50 % for farmers
 - 50% to Trust



Opportunities for Payments from Avoided Deforestation

Depending on how “forest” will be defined, Kuapa farmers can work together to:

- Halt expansion into Forest Reserves in targeted areas
- Make commitment to protecting non-reserved forests & secondary forests in communities and Districts
- Therefore, commit to establishing new farms in previously cultivated lands like fallows, or over-mature cocoa
- Areas Kuapa has discussed: Goaso, Kakum, Asem

Opportunities for Payments from Reforestation (REDD-Plus)

- In some areas farmers are already complaining that their no-shade cocoa is suffering and dying.
 - Work with such farmers to bring more shade into their farms through tree planting or natural regeneration
- Work to have more shade in farms than is “business as usual”
 - Couple an increase in shade density with selection of valuable NTFP species that are compatible with cocoa and can add additional income
 - Similar focus on biological diversity of tree species in order to make biodiversity off-sets an option
- Investigate potential for Kuapa woodlots in cocoa landscapes
- Areas Kuapa has discussed: Trans.Zone (Techiman?) Enchi, Samreboi

Challenges for Farmers & Kuapa Kokoo

- How many shade trees in a cocoa farm? eg. 6-9 per acre and 12-18 per ha recommended by CRIG?
- What will be the effect on cocoa production?
- Cocoa farming landscapes are patchy and socially diverse. How to unify farmers and fragmented landscapes to achieve necessary scale? Eg. 2000 farmers per district.



Thank You!

For more information about Kuapa Kokoo:

www.kuapakokoo.com