



CULTIVATE  
BETTER™

Guittard  
CHOCOLATE COMPANY

# Progress Report Summary Highlights

## 2023

- 1 Through the USDA/Corus International MOCCA project, we supported the Ecuadorian national agricultural research institute - INIAP and the Ecuadorian cocoa exporters association – ANECACAO to update cocoa sample processing and sensory analysis in line with developing international standards.
- 2 In collaboration with the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (CRIG), supply chain partners and cooperatives, a decade-long effort to establish Fine Flavor in Ghana is taking hold with improved quality and farmer interest in these high-value, high-yielding, grafted varieties.
- 3 The Cultivate Better Cocoa program in Valle del Sade, Ecuador is focused on the historic Nacional variety through farm renovation and identifying high-yielding older trees for grafting.
- 4 Through the adoption of Good Agricultural Practices training and co-op service provision, Cultivate Better Cocoa pilot programs in the Ivory Coast, Ghana and Ecuador are improving yields and incomes for 1,202 cocoa farmers and their families.
- 5 Our traceable Fair Trade program and partnership with the SCOSACI cooperative in Sassandra, Ivory Coast is improving yields, quality, and value for 363 farmers alongside community and environmental investments.
- 6 We are building long-term relationships and sustainable supply chains with Rainforest Alliance and Fair Trade certified suppliers in Peru, Ecuador and the Dominican Republic help drive lasting, positive impact.
- 7 30 women led Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLAs) in Ivory Coast and Ghana bring together community members to create savings and access low interest loans that can bridge immediate family needs, school fees, on-farm investments, or small entrepreneurial activities.
- 8 Community gardens piloted in the Ivory Coast and Ecuador are providing models for collective production of high value – high nutrition foods for family consumption and for sale in local markets. Skills learned in these programs are also brought to home gardens amplifying their impact.
- 9 Launched in 2021/22, the Children’s Learning and Education Facility (CLEF) is a coalition led by the Ivorian Government dedicated to enhancing access to and the quality of education in cocoa-growing regions of the Ivory Coast aimed to impact the lives of over 4 million children.
- 10 33,675: the number of indigenous forest seedlings planted with our farmers, cooperatives, and supply chain partners since the launch of the Cocoa & Forest Initiative in 2019.
- 11 50 Tika cookstoves provided to families in the 5 communities in Agboville, Ivory Coast reducing charcoal usage by 83%, with a monthly average savings of \$5.05, a significant amount for these households. Equally important is the amount of time saved either travelling to buy charcoal or collecting firewood.
- 12 In 2022, we reduced our environmental footprint through:
  - 1 megawatt of solar panels in our Fairfield factory produced 52% of that facility’s electrical needs with the balance coming from community choice aggregator, MCE as 100% GHG free energy.
  - 650Kw of clean energy through a Bloom Energy fuel cell system on-site at our Burlingame facility. In May of 2023 the second phase of the Bloom Energy project went live with an additional 750 Kw for a total of 1.4MW of clean 24/7 energy.

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