

Different households – different challenges?

Understanding the impacts of cocoa producers' household characteristics on needs and ability to apply sustainable production techniques



Cocoa agroforestry system in Côte d'Ivoire, © A. Tokou 2022

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Introduction

- Many efforts to deliver trainings on sustainable cocoa production by value chain actors over past years to enhance farmers' Living Income.
- Focus on mainstream sustainability interventions on Good Agricultural Practices, Farmer Business School, recent shift towards inclusion of agro-ecological elements, e.g. agroforestry systems and diversification
- Limited insights on adoption rates and reasons for cocoa producers' decision to apply training contents.

Objective

- To contribute to an improved understanding of impact factors for successful adoption of sustainability interventions.

Living Income Approach

The Living Income Story



"The net annual income required for a family in a particular place to afford a decent standard of living for all members of that family. Elements of a decent standard of living include: food, water, housing, education, healthcare, transport, clothing, and other essential needs including provision for unexpected events."

Source: Living Income Community of Practice, 2022.

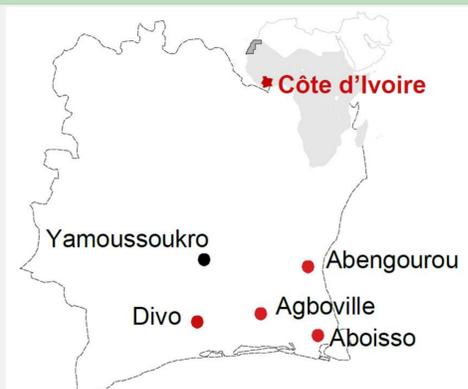


Figure: Intervention regions PRO-PLANTEURS 1+2 (© GIZ)

Research question:

- How do farm and household characteristics impact cocoa farmers' perceptions towards livelihood and production challenges, including the ability to adapt training contents?

Research area

- PRO-PLANTEURS intervention regions in Côte d'Ivoire (see map)

Mixed methods approach:

- Socio-economic household survey among PRO-PLANTEURS targeted cocoa farmers (N=300, June 2022)
- Expert workshop and focus group discussions (June 2022)
- Semi-structured interviews with cocoa farmers, cooperative representatives, and other PRO-PLANTEURS stakeholders (ongoing)

Data analysis:

- Typology based on Principal Component Analysis and Hierarchical Cluster Analysis based on Principal Components
- Descriptive statistics, statistical tests, and regression analysis
- Qualitative content analysis

Farm type description

	Farm type 1 (n=136)	Farm type 2 (n=40)	Farm type 3 (n=34)	Female HH head (n=18)
Mean total farm area	5.18 ha	5.97 ha	13.57 ha	3.5 ha
Mean area other crops	1.64 ha	1.81ha	6.69 ha	1.17 ha
Mean cocoa area cultivated	3.87 ha	4.34 ha	6.88 ha	2.5 ha
Mean years of formal education HH head	5.40	5.38	6.15	6.39
Years of experience cocoa cultivation	21	23	22	18
Mean household size	8	7	9	6
Mean number of perennial crops	0.69	0.88	1.88	0.40
Mean number of food crops (vivriers)	3	1	4	3
Mean number of vegetable crops (maraichères)	2.54	0.20	2.62	2.11
Mean number of fruit tree species	2.99	2.03	4.85	2.72
Mean number of livestock species	0.62	0.10	1.09	0.33

	Participants training agroforestry	Participants that apply training content
Type 1	64.29%	52.50%
Type 2	61.54%	53.68%
Type 3	66.67%	58.82%
Type 4	47.06%	44.44%

Farm type 1: smaller farms with a good degree of diversification in terms of food crops, vegetable growing, fruit trees and livestock

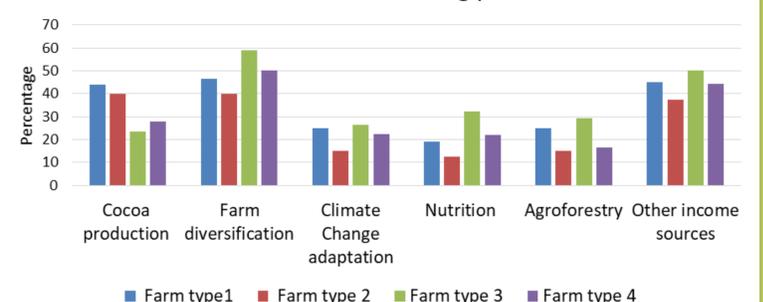
Farm type 2: medium size farms that show lower crop diversity than type 1 and 4, although their land size is higher

Farm type 3: bigger farms that cultivate the highest number of perennial crops and a high diversification in terms of food crops, vegetable growing, fruit trees and livestock

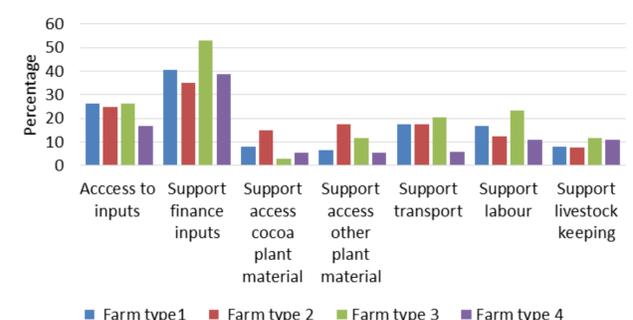
Farm type 4: female headed households, smallest land size but a good level of diversification (food crops, vegetable growing, fruit trees), showing a slightly lower experience in cocoa production and household size

Results

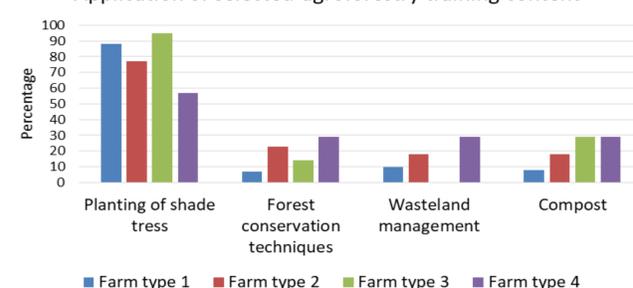
Households' head training priorities



Stated support needs by HH head



Application of selected agroforestry training content



Outlook/next steps

- Deepening understanding of success determining factors (positive deviance)
- Assessing socio-economic benefits of agroecological practices, esp. regarding reduction of Living Income gap

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