



Save the Children

FERRERO



Armel Martial Zaossey Irahou for Save the Children

FERRERO SAVE THE CHILDREN ANNUAL COCOA PARTNERSHIP REPORT

December 2020 - November 2021

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CONTENT

Year 1 results cocoa partnership

Protecting children in cocoa sourcing communities
in Haut-Sassandra region, 2020- 2025 4

Overview 4

Annual report 6

Introduction 7

1 **Protecting and improving
children's lives in Côte d'Ivoire** 7

Improving child protection 10

Strengthening communities 13

Increasing access to education 16

Empowering adolescents and young people 17

2 **Technical support** 18

Overall partnership at a glance

Overall partnership timeline 2010-2025 21

2010-2025 global top lines 22

Overall partnership communication 23

YEAR 1 RESULTS COCOA PARTNERSHIP



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PROTECT CHILDREN IN COCOA SOURCING COMMUNITIES IN HAUT-SASSANDRA REGION 2020- 2025

OVERVIEW In December 2020, Save the Children began a five-year project to stop child labour in 65 cocoa-growing communities in the Haut-Sassandra region of Côte D'Ivoire, with funding and support from Ferrero. It is an integrated and sustainable response to the critical and complex problem of child labour in Côte D'Ivoire, which has its roots in poverty, poor access to education, and lack of community development.

Building on a three-year project delivered in 20 communities in the Nawa region from 2017 and 2020, this phase of the project aims to protect and improve the lives of more than 18,000 children, adolescents

and young people in cocoa-growing communities, who are exposed to the worst forms of child labour and hazardous work. It will also directly benefit 22,600 adults and reach a further 90,000 children and adults indirectly through awareness and outreach activities.

In addition, Save the Children is providing strategic guidance and technical support to Ferrero and its suppliers, to strengthen child protection throughout Ferrero's supply chain. This will increase the project's impact and improve the lives of thousands more children in communities across West Africa and beyond.



YEAR 1 RESULTS COCOA PARTNERSHIP



STRENGTHEN PROTECTION SYSTEMS:

access to protection mechanisms against any forms of violence, exploitation and abuse.



ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION:

children increase access to quality, inclusive and participatory education.



SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

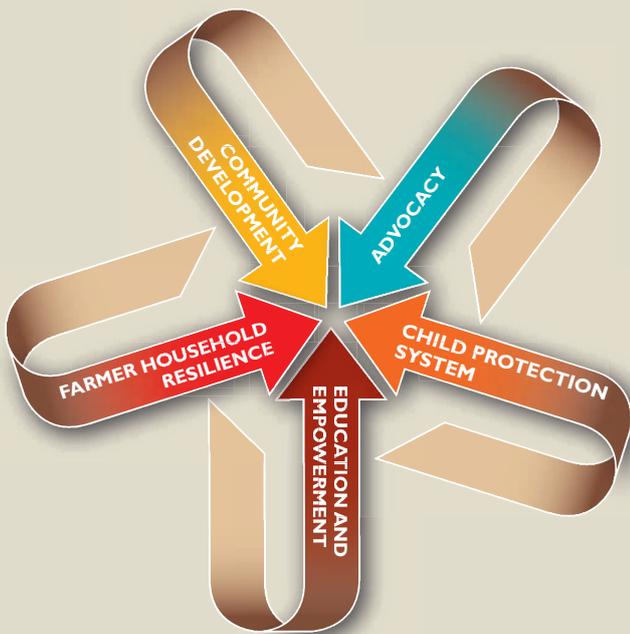
communities awareness, skills, assets, income and capacities are strengthened to reduce vulnerability and create a conducive environment for the prevention and reduction of child labour.



EMPOWER ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH:

adolescents and young people develop their potential for improving their economic and social lives/Providing youth with life skills and job training.

INTEGRATED APPROACH TO DELIVER SUSTAINABLE CHANGE



1 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES DIRECT IMPLEMENTATION:

Save the Children implements activities through holistic approach in 65 communities linked to Ferrero's cocoa supply chain in Haut-Sassandra region.

2 TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO FERRERO AND SUPPLIERS:

capacity building and technical support for implementation of suppliers' community development activities to ensure streamlined approach on child protection in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana.





Armel Martial Zaossey Irahou for Save the Children

Protecting children in cocoa sourcing communities in Haut-Sassandra region, Côte d'Ivoire

Introduction

In its first year, the project reached 4,767 direct beneficiaries including 929 children.

Save the Children is working in collaboration with local non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community leaders, children's groups, community-based organisations, national and local state authorities, and others to deliver sustainable activities that will protect children from exploitation and harm; strengthen communities; improve access to education; and empower adolescents and young people to fulfil their future potential.

In addition, Save the Children is providing strategic guidance and technical support to Ferrero and its suppliers, to strengthen child protection throughout Ferrero's supply chain. This will increase the project's impact and improve the lives of thousands more children in communities across West Africa and beyond.



Marta Moroni for Save the Children

1 PROTECTING AND IMPROVING CHILDREN'S LIVES IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE

To tackle the complex problem of child labour in cocoa-growing communities across the Haut-Sassandra region, Save the Children is working to reduce multiple risk factors that promote and enable child labour in 65 communities that are directly linked to Ferrero's cocoa supply chain.

To address these risk factors in a sustained and integrated way, the project has four key components with activities that aim to:

- Improve child protection.
- Strengthen communities.
- Increase access to quality education.
- Empower adolescents and young people.

Targeting children and communities most at risk

At the start of the project, a data collection exercise was carried out to select the 65 beneficiary communities, from 139 cocoa-growing communities in the region that are linked to Ferrero's supply chain. Local authorities and other stakeholders were involved in the process, which used an International Cocoa Initiative (ICI) tool to identify communities with a high risk of child labour, located in a single geographical area where only basic services were provided, and no other development actors were present.

The selected communities are in the departments of Daloa, Zoukougbeu and Issia. **In the first year, the project was only implemented in a group of 32 communities**, all from Daloa and Zoukougbeu except one from Issia, but more communities will participate in the second year. Community needs were assessed through data collected from key informants such as farmers, community leaders, teachers and cooperative representatives. The quality of services provided by social centres was also assessed.

HAUT-SASSANDRA REGION



Working with social workers and community leaders, **the most vulnerable households were identified**, including female-headed households, victims of disasters or whose cocoa crop was affected by swollen shoot, those with school age children who were not in school, and households without a plantation. Using Save the Children's vulnerability assessment tool, 900 households most at risk were identified, **based on factors relating to health, nutrition, education, income, housing, child labour risk and other vulnerabilities**.

Surveys and focus groups were carried out to assess households' knowledge and practices relating to child labour, child protection and related issues, to ensure that activities delivered by Save the Children, or by state or other actors with support from Save the Children, meet their most critical needs.

Collaborating for greater impact

A key activity in the first year of the project was to identify potential stakeholders and partners. A directory of state and non-state entities working on child labour issues at regional level has been compiled, including those with a particular focus on cocoa farming communities. This includes social services, prefectures and sub-prefectures, town halls, the regional council, the Café-Cacao Council, NGOs and the regional directorates for social protection, women, family and children, labour, education, and health.

Save the Children staff and implementing partners were trained, and relevant state actors were brought in each of the three geographical areas together, to raise awareness and support for the project. Participants at the orientation session included representatives of social centres, the National Agency for Support to Rural Development (ANADER), the directorates of agriculture and youth, police departments, the Youth Employment Agency, the prefectural body, the health districts, and teaching staff.

ANNUAL REPORT

Operational and administrative partners and other stakeholders were invited to the official project launch in February 2021. This ensured that the project's operational activities were well coordinated from the start. **The continued commitment and collaboration of the project's stakeholders is crucial to ensure that a holistic and sustainable approach is taken, that will meet the needs of the children most at risk.**

Measuring our progress

Throughout the five-year project, progress will be monitored regularly using a set of performance and impact indicators that are documented in a **monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning (MEAL) plan.**

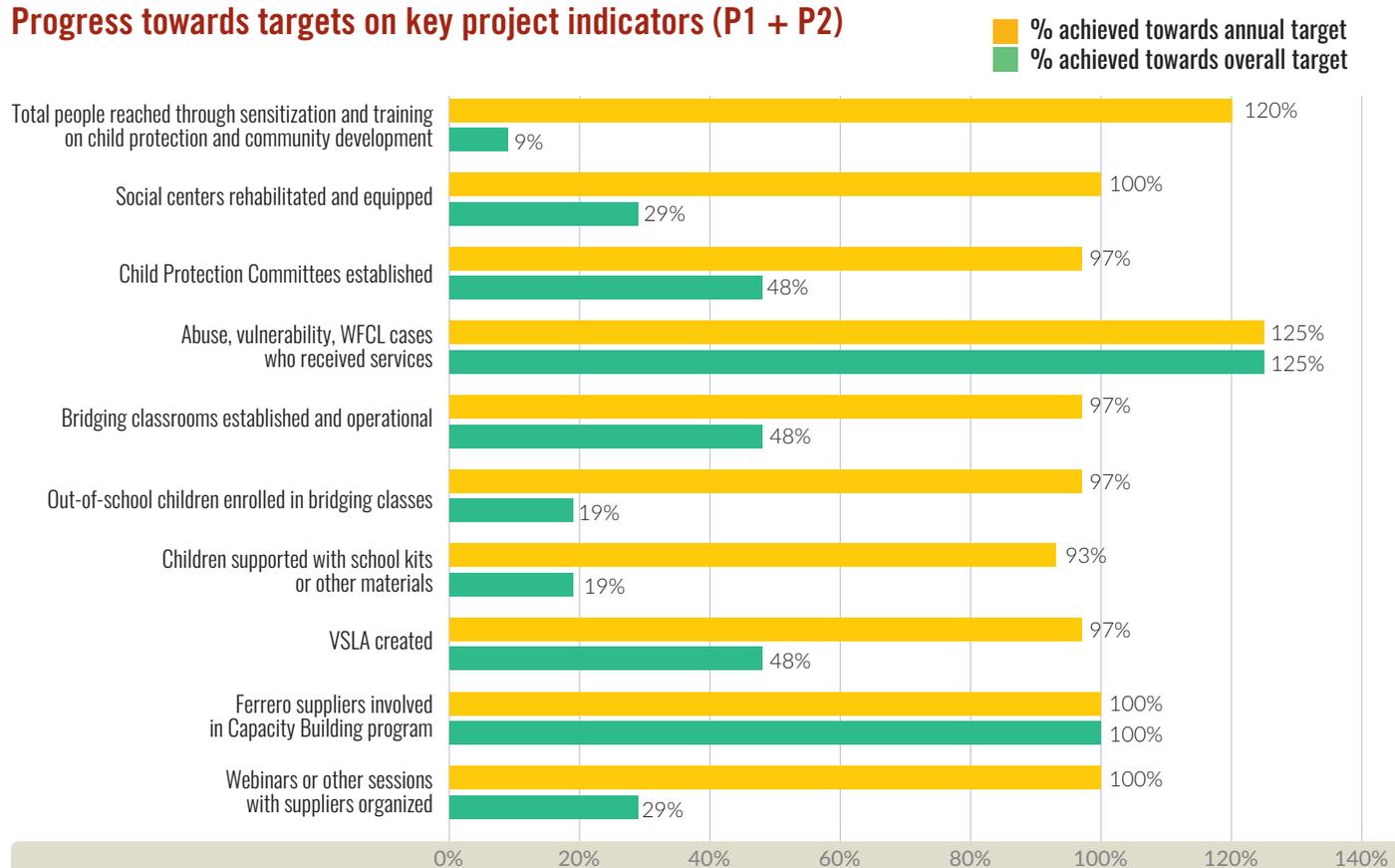
Regular site visits and other data quality checks are supported by feedback from the beneficiary communities, who have been provided with a toll-free number for feedback or complaints. Suggestion boxes have also been installed in relevant, accessible locations.

A baseline study has been completed for the first group of 32 communities and the first annual review was carried out in December 2021.

Project achievements in the first year

First year indicators for each of the four project components are shown in the following chapters of this report. **The table below highlights some key indicators for activities carried out during this year.**

Progress towards targets on key project indicators (P1 + P2)



In its first year, the project has reached 4,767 direct beneficiaries including 929 children. Over the five-year period, it will directly reach more than 18,000 children, adolescents and young people and more than 22,000 adults in cocoa growing communities, who are exposed to the worst forms of child labour and hazardous work. **In addition, it will indirectly support a further 90,000 children and adults in beneficiary communities** through awareness campaigns and capacity-building activities, which will make them informed and active allies who can contribute to development of their community.

Improving child protection

Expected Outcome

Children, adolescents and young people have **greater access to protection mechanisms against all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, including harmful work, through a functional system for monitoring and remediating child labour.**

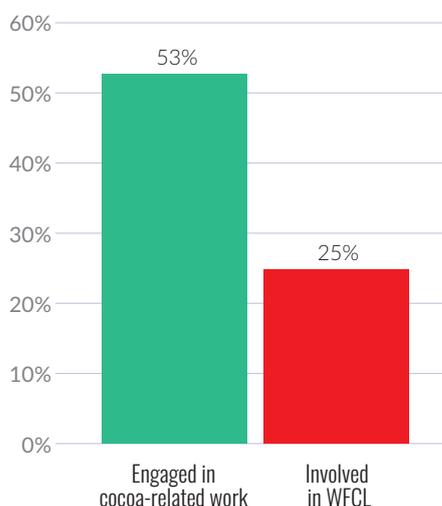
Context

Since 2014, Côte d'Ivoire has adopted an institutional framework to prevent and respond to child protection abuses. This includes a national child protection policy, local child protection system, the System of Observation and Monitoring of Child Labour in Ivory Coast, and a National Action Plan to Combat Child Labour.

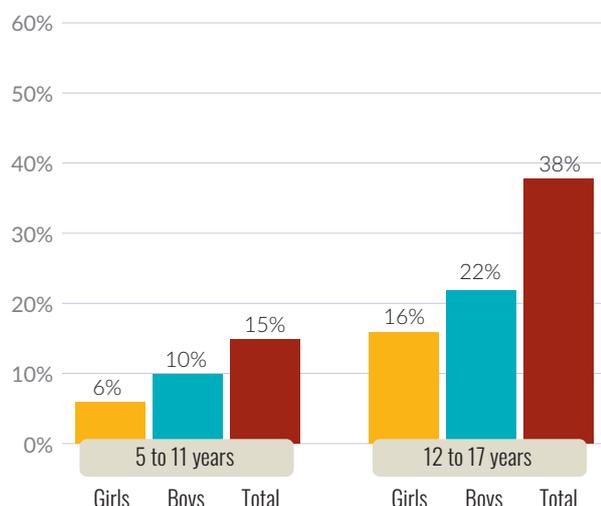
There are 11 regional child protection platforms, which bring together NGOs, public services and private actors to prevent and respond to all forms of child abuse, violation and exploitation. These platforms have a key role to play in the development and effective functioning of child protection referral mechanisms.

- **53% of children and adolescents interviewed** for the baseline study were engaged in cocoa-related work.
- **25% were engaged in hazardous activities** identified by the International Labour Organisation as among the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- **Boys, particularly those aged 12-17,** were more likely to engage in cocoa-related and risky work.

Working children



Children engaged in cocoa-related work by sex and age group

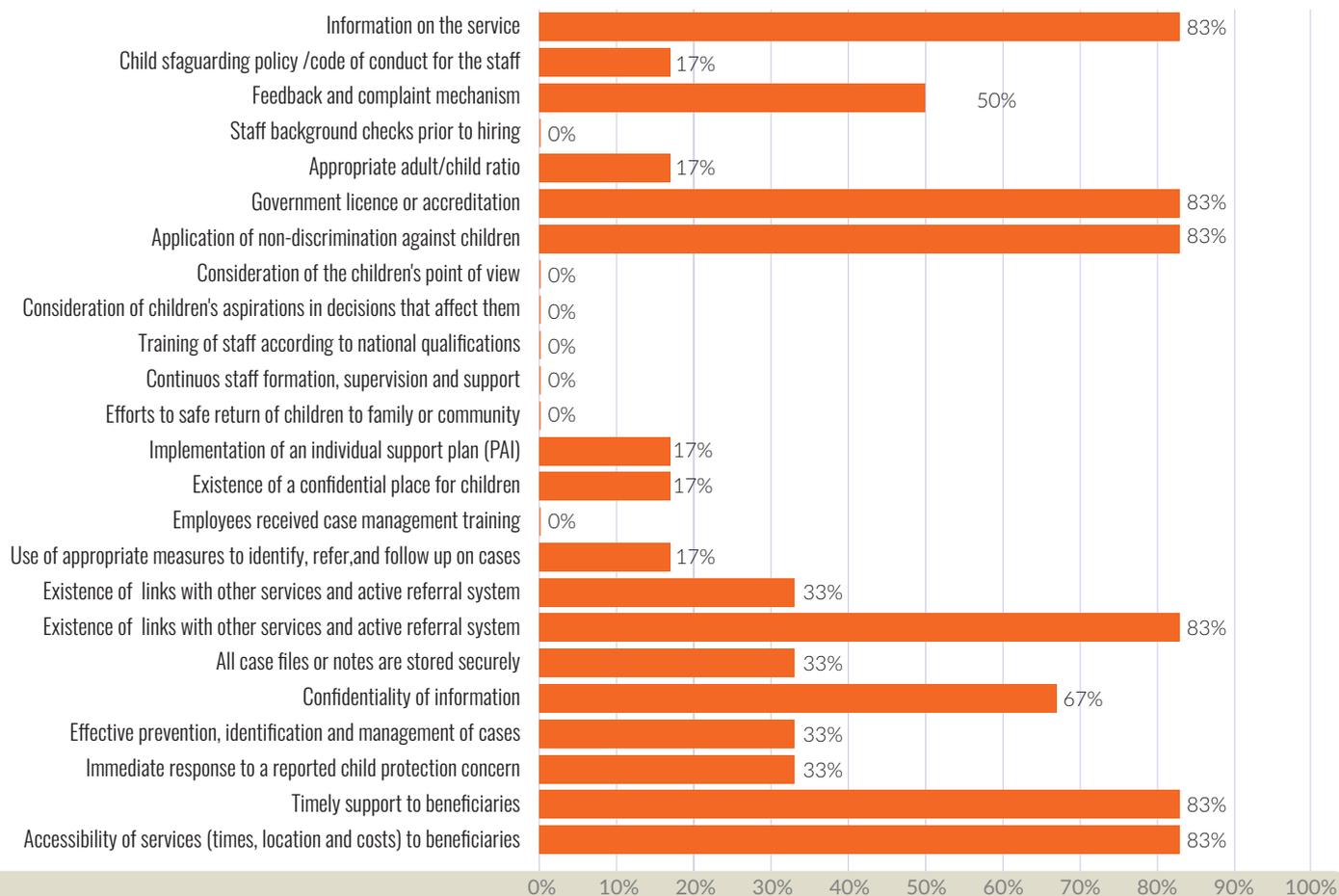




In the departments of Daloa and Zoukougbeu there are six formal child protection services that were assessed during the baseline study to measure their quality standards and identify areas that need urgent action.

Quality standards in social centers

■ % centers meeting quality standards

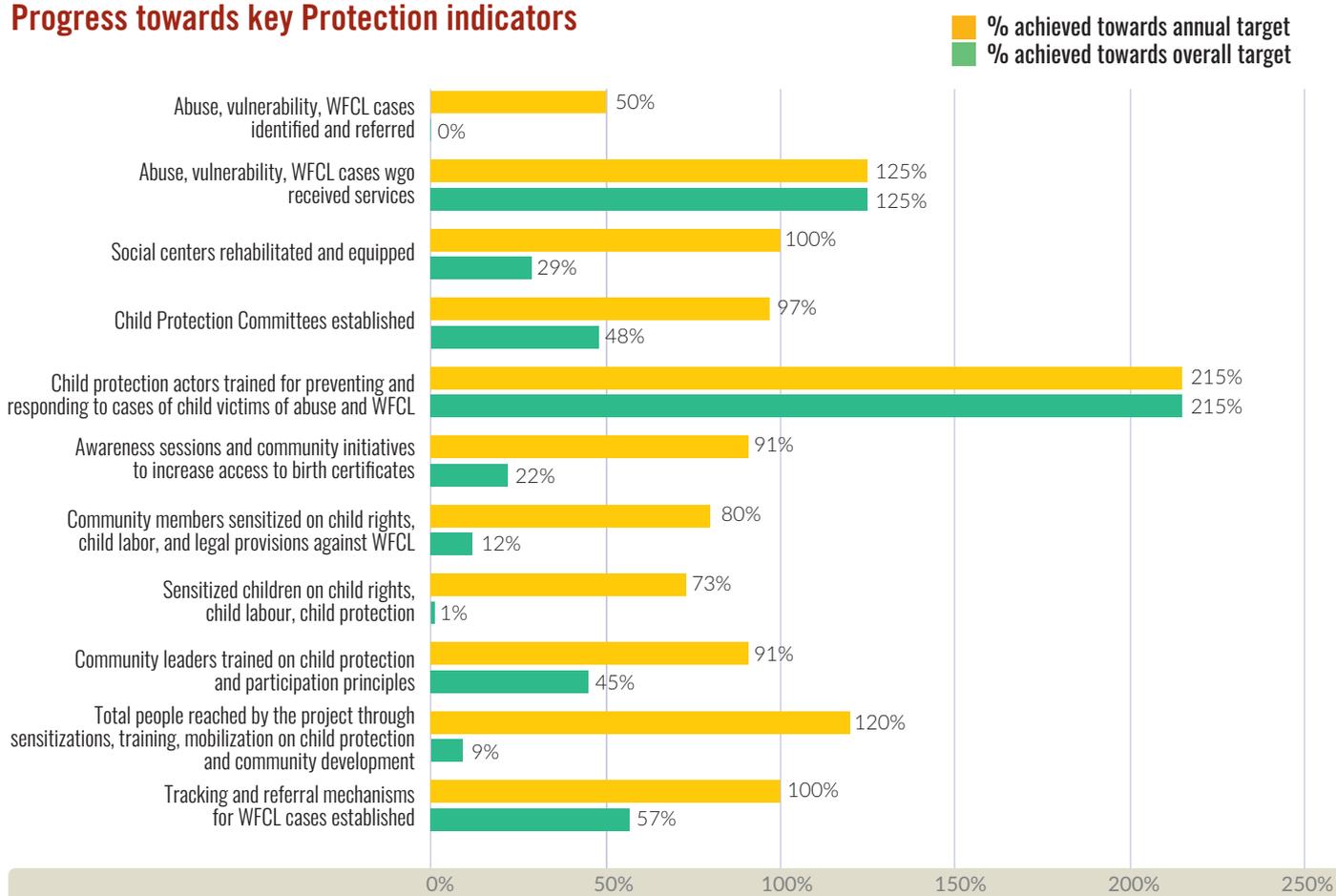


Key highlights this year

To improve and strengthen child protection mechanisms and monitoring:

- **2 local child protection platforms** were established and supported with capacity building and planning.
- **31 Child Protection Committees (CPCs)** were established with active community facilitators.
- **3,744 CPC community members were trained**, to strengthen their awareness of child protection principles.
- **2 social centres were renovated** and equipped; legal and technical support and training was provided.
- **35 foster families were identified**, trained and legally recognised; this was praised by local authorities.
- **58 community leaders were trained** in child protection and child participation.
- **Community awareness events were delivered** on topics including barriers to accessing birth certificates.

Progress towards key Protection indicators



Strengthening communities

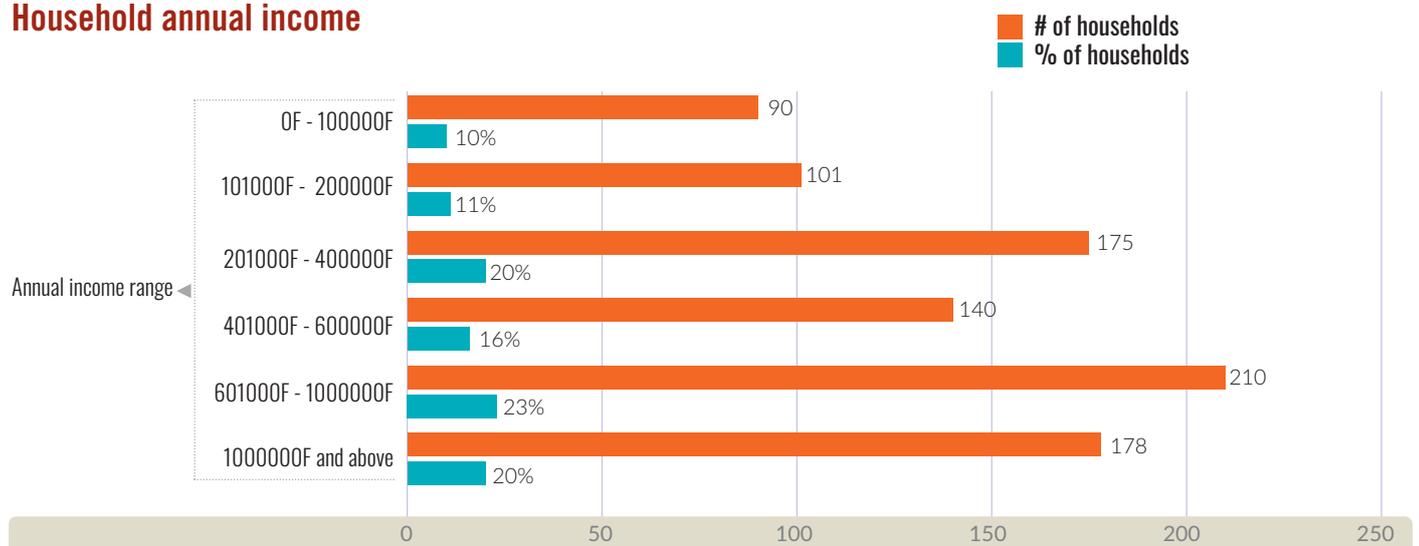
Expected Outcome

Awareness, skills, assets, incomes and capacities of households and local communities are strengthened to reduce their socio-economic vulnerability and create an enabling environment for the reduction of child labour.

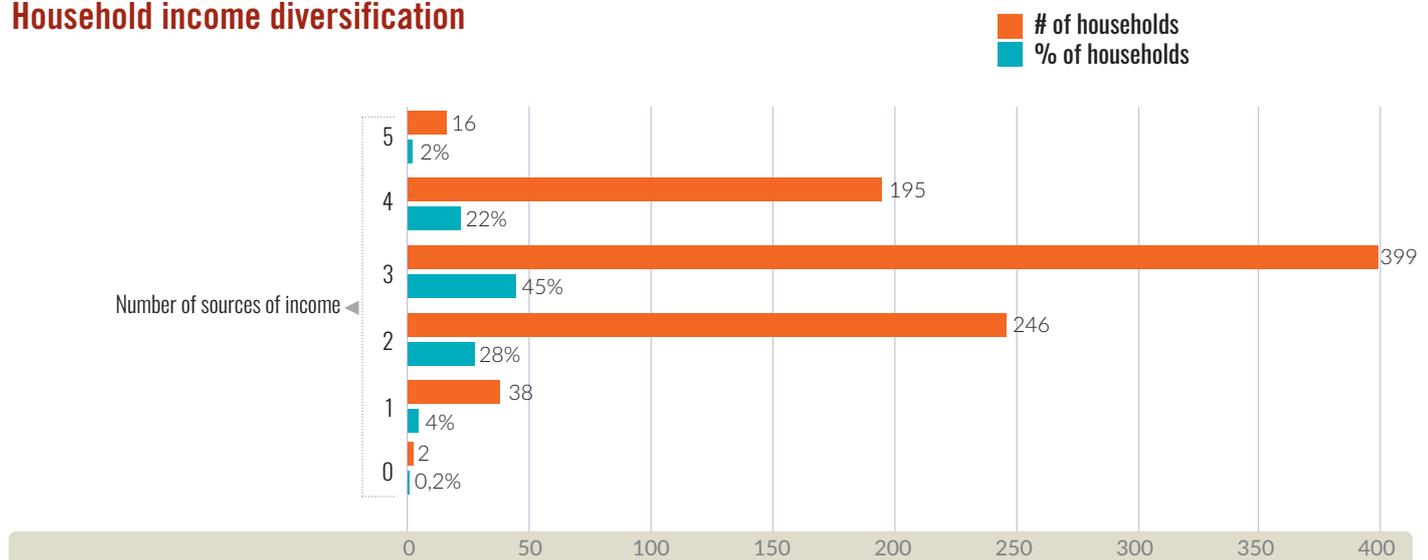
Context

- **90% of families** interviewed for the baseline study said that most of their income comes from cocoa farming.
- **44% of households** have two sources of income and 21% have a single source of income.
- **57% of households** have an annual income below 600,000 FCFA (around \$1,000) per year.
- **Cocoa communities** are heavily dependent on the fluctuating market price for cocoa.

Household annual income



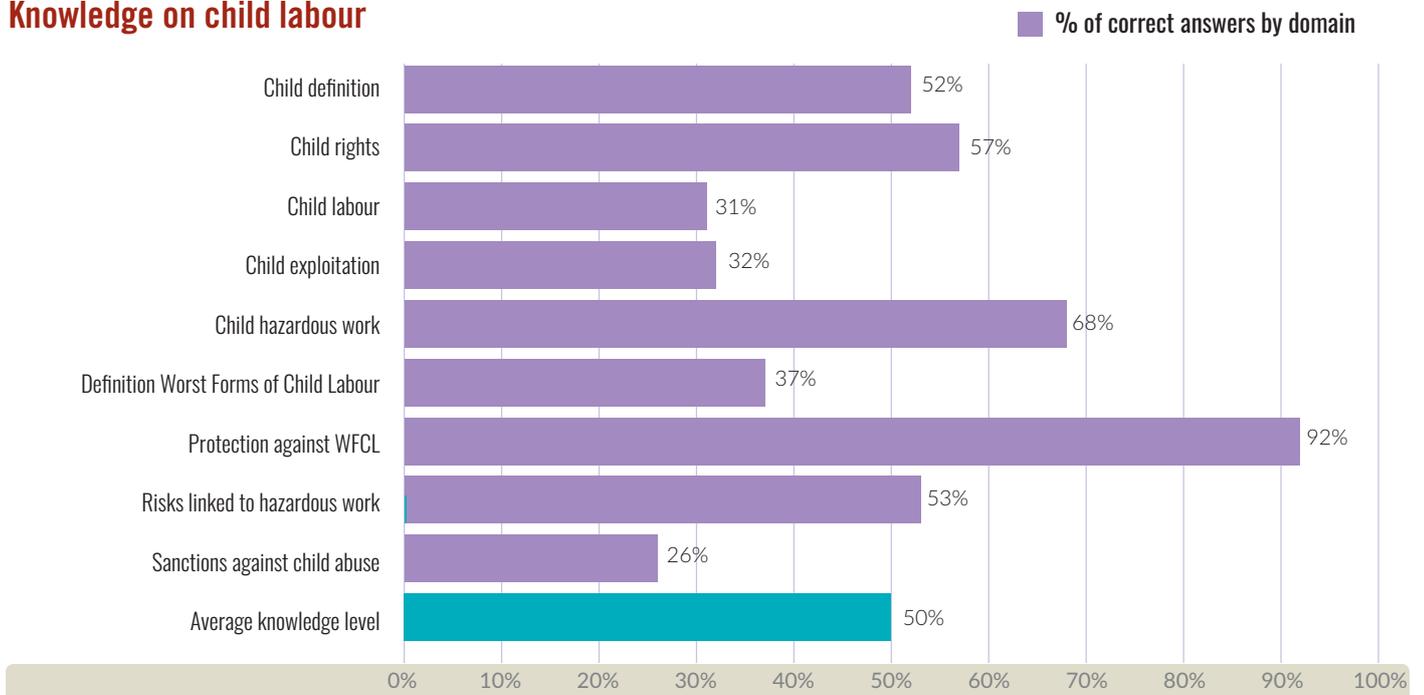
Household income diversification



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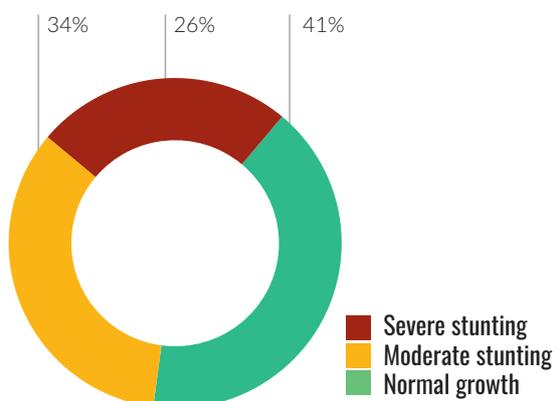
- Parents' knowledge on child labour is generally low (50% of correct answers on average)
- Major gaps included knowledge of sanctions for failing to protect child rights (26%) and understanding of child labour (31%), child exploitation (32%), and the Worst Forms of Child Labour (37%).

Knowledge on child labour

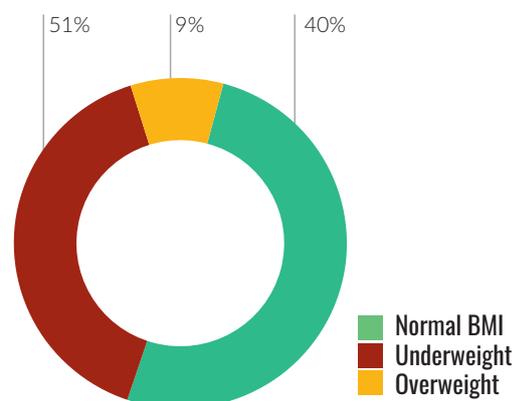


- 60% of children under the age of 5 had stunting and 40% of adolescent girls were underweight.

Stunting among children 0-5



Adolescent girls' Body Mass Index

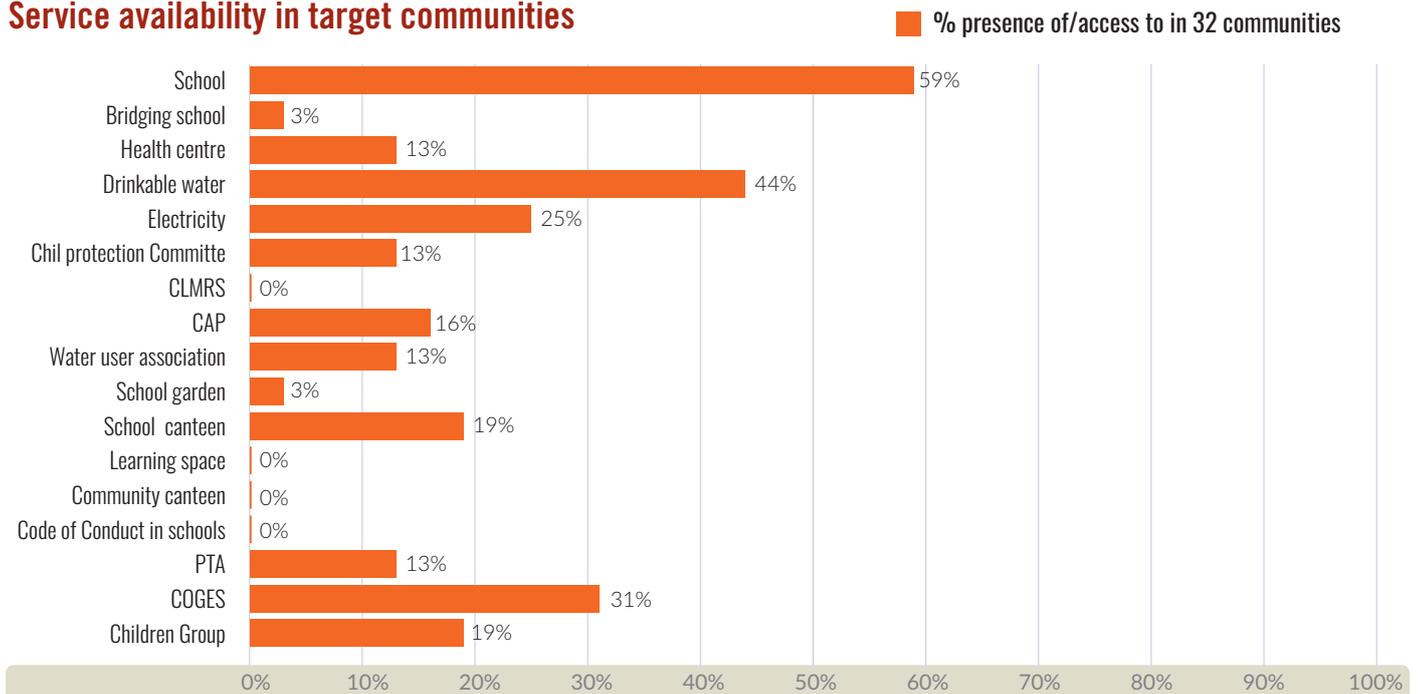


ANNUAL REPORT

A community assessment found **limited access to basic social services**, particularly **primary health services** (only 12% of communities), **electricity** (25%) and **drinking water** (47%). Primary schools are present in 19 of the 65 communities, but several of them are not up to quality standards and do not offer all classes at primary level.

Some community groups exist, including school management committees (10), children's clubs (6), and parent and teacher associations (4). Four Child Protection Committees were recorded, but the members had not been trained to identify and refer cases, and no cases had been identified or managed by them directly.

Service availability in target communities



Key highlights this year

To reduce socio-economic vulnerability and improve knowledge of child labour within communities:

- **31 Village Savings and Loans Associations** were set up, enabling households with limited savings to diversify their income through community-based loans.
- **Communities were consulted about community action plans**, which will be developed by at least 30 people from each community with strong representation of women, young people and older people.
- The quality and availability of water supplies was assessed and the relevant directorates were engaged to **provide technical support for the improvements that are needed**.

Progress towards key Community indicators



Increasing access to education

Expected Outcome

Children have greater access to quality, inclusive and participatory education.

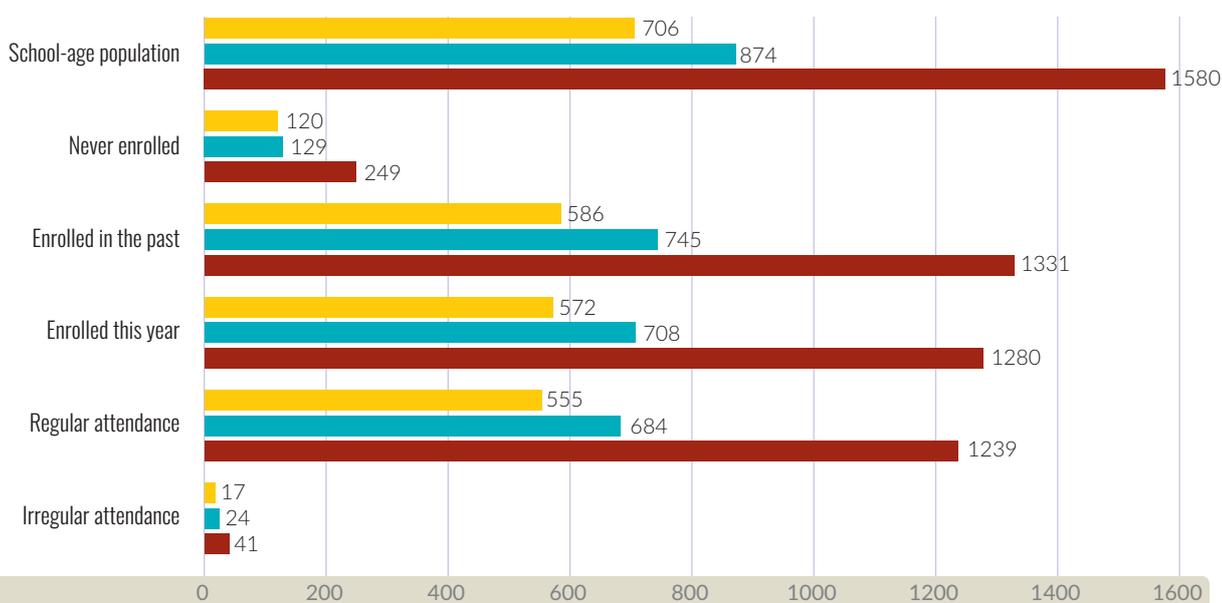
Context

Since 2015, it has been compulsory in Côte d'Ivoire for children between the ages of 6 and 16 to attend school. Yet challenges remain, particularly in rural communities that lack school infrastructure, teachers and staff.

- **16% of school-age children** surveyed for the baseline study said they had never enrolled in school.
- **81% were enrolled in school this year**, but 3% often miss classes or have dropped out.

School enrollment and attendance by sex

Girls Boys Total



Key highlights this year

To support more children to access a quality, inclusive and participatory education:

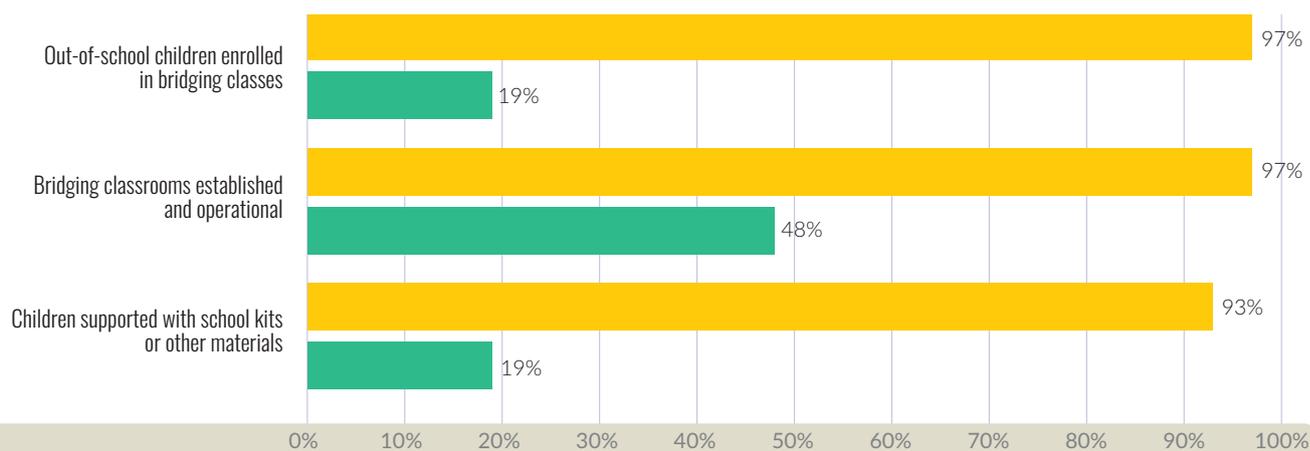
- **32 bridging classes opened in 31 communities**, enabling 779 out-of-school children aged 9 to 14 to catch-up with their learning and gain the skills or knowledge they need for further education.
- **28 class facilitators were selected and trained** by Save the Children and the Regional Directorate of National Education and Literacy (DRENA).
- **8 literacy counsellors were trained** to monitor the quality of teaching, provide support to facilitators and ensure the successful transfer of learners to formal education.
- Community leaders, school management committees and the prefectural body were actively engaged in **enrolling students, ensuring inclusion of girls, proving suitable learning spaces, and delivering classes**.
- **42 education stakeholders were trained** on good hygiene, water and sanitation facilities in schools.

ANNUAL REPORT

- **60 community leaders** participated in an orientation session about mothers' clubs for schoolgirls.
- **28 primary school managers**, members of school management committees and other stakeholders attended an orientation session for the launch of student clubs, which will work with schools to solve issues.
- Discussions were held about ways to **revitalise school management committees**.

Progress towards key Education indicators

■ % achieved vs annual target
■ % achieved vs overall target



Empowering adolescents and young people

Expected Outcome

Adolescents and young people develop their potential to improve their lives economically and socially.

Context

An assessment of adolescent and youth empowerment will soon be finalised, along with a study on employment opportunities. This will enable us to develop clear indicators and targets for this area and identify the most effective activities for empowering adolescents and young people in cocoa-growing communities.

Key highlights this year

To increase the economic and social empowerment of adolescents and young people:

- Social workers and staff from our implementing partners, ORASUR and Agriculturalist in Action received **training on Save the Children's life skills for success common approach**.
- Training focused on enabling adolescents and young people to navigate their social environment effectively, work with their peers, and set and work towards achievable goals.
- Future training sessions will focus on **social skills, communication skills**, higher order thinking skills, self-control and positive self-concept, as well as topics such as saving, and starting a business.
- Discussions were held with the Chamber of Trades, ANADER and the Youth Employment Agency about apprenticeship programmes for adolescents and young people.



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2 TECHNICAL SUPPORT

In addition to activities delivered in cocoa-growing communities across the Haut-Sassandra region, Save the Children is proving strategic guidance and technical support to Ferrero and its suppliers, to strengthen child protection throughout Ferrero’s supply chain.

Key highlights this year

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

- Save the Children and Ferrero developed a framework that Ferrero and 14 of its partners can use to implement community development programmes in Ghana and Côte D’Ivoire. Save the Children will provide technical support and capacity building to a ‘core’ group of eight suppliers. Another six suppliers will be invited to join capacity building activities at a later date.
- Webinars were held to discuss the framework with core partners, which were well-attended by a wide range of people involved in community development in field and head office teams, as well as their suppliers and cooperatives. Participants exchanged ideas, and demonstrated a good understanding of the need for a coordinated and integrated approach to tackle child labour, and the challenges involved.



PILLAR 2: STC TECHNICAL SUPPORT IVORY COAST+GHANA

CORE GROUP

- 1 ACF
- 2 Cargill
- 3 Ecookim (via Ecom)
- 4 Ecom
- 5 Olam
- 6 Touton
- 7 Barry Callebaut
- 8 Blommer
- 9 Farmstrong (via Sucden)

EXTRA GROUP

- 1 Abrabopa
- 2 Cocosource
- 3 Kineden (via Ecom)
- 4 Socak (via Ecom)
- 5 Sucden

ANNUAL REPORT

CAPACITY ASSESSMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

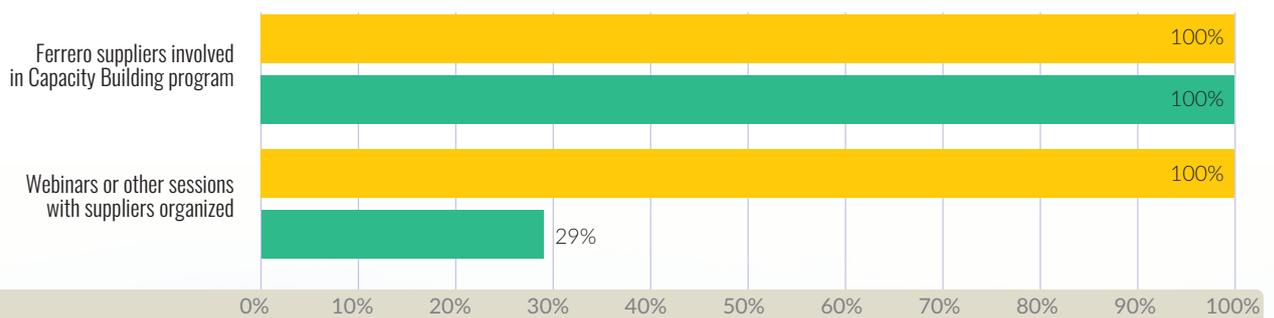
- 50 representatives from Ferrero's core partners, their suppliers and cooperatives, completed an online assessment of their knowledge and skills in relation to child protection, community development, education, youth empowerment, and MEAL. This found a wide variation in knowledge and skills.
- A capacity building programme was developed to strengthen the competencies of partners in these areas, from January 2022 Suppliers will also attend Save the Children's foundational training in child participation, child safeguarding, fundraising (for community action plans) and gender equality, disability and social inclusion.
- An online resource library has been created with reference material and toolkits available for all partners.

MONITORING

- Monitoring and evaluation tools and templates, in both English and French, have been developed and shared with Ferrero and its partners to ensure a consistent approach. Training and guidance on how to use these tools and templates will be provided through the capacity building programme.

Progress towards key Technical Support indicators

■ % achieved vs annual target
■ % achieved vs overall target



OVERALL PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE



Armel Martial Zaocsey Irahou for Save the Children

OVERALL PARTNERSHIP TIMELINE 2010-2025



2010-2016 EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND CÔTE D'IVOIRE

- **Where:** 2010 Haiti; 2015 Nepal. 2016 Central Italy and pilot project in Côte d'Ivoire.
- **Budget:** 450.000 € to support during national and international emergencies.
- **Beneficiaries:** within the project in Côte d'Ivoire we reached more than 7.500 including 500 children.



2017- 2020 CHILD PROTECTION IN COCOA PLANTATIONS

- **Where:** 20 communities in Nawa Region, Côte d'Ivoire.
- **Budget:** about 1MLN.
- **Beneficiaries:** Direct: 20.483 including 6.261 children. Indirect: 40.720 including 17.200 children.



2020 "RISCRIVIAMO IL FUTURO" CAMPAIGN

- **Where:** Italy.
- **Budget:** 120.000 € to support the campaign to fight educational poverty and early school leaving of children most at risk in Italy.
- **Beneficiaries:** 6 months after the campaign launch, Save the Children reached 58.843 children.



2020-2025 PROTECTING CHILDREN IN COCOA SOURCING COMMUNITIES IN HAUT-SASSANDRA REGION

- **Where:** 65 communities in Haut-Sassandra Region, Côte d'Ivoire.
- **Budget:** 8 MLN.
- **Beneficiaries:** Direct: 40,630 including 18,020 children. Indirect: 89,505 including 48,555 children.
- **What:** the project consists of 2 pillars and a parallel project "Ferrero Child Labor Policy And Guidelines" where Ferrero's Sustainability Department aims to develop together with Save the Children Child Labour Guidelines and a Child Labour Policy for Ferrero's Agricultural Supply Chain.

2010-2025 GLOBAL TOP LINES



OVER
196,568
TOTAL REACH
OF WHICH
CHILDREN AND YOUTH
125,098



7
PROJECTS



5
COUNTRIES



OVER
9.5 MLN €
DONATION

Haiti

Côte d'Ivoire

Ghana

Italy

Nepal



OVERALL PARTNERSHIP COMMUNICATION

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MARCH 2021

On March 24th, Ferrero announced the achievement of its goal of 100% sustainable cocoa in 2020 and the renewed partnership with Save the Children to strengthen children’s rights protection activities “Cocoa sourcing communities in Haut-Sassandra region”. In the first seven days after the press release, the announcement has had a very good result because has been mentioned 690 times in traditional media and social media.



“We address critical human rights issues in our supply chains and strengthen our due diligence. However, child labour in cocoa-growing communities remains a significant issue, and we are determined to go beyond to address the challenge. This is why I am so pleased that we are enforce our partnership with Save the Children, with a focus on prevention to increase our impact on this issue. In this way, we can help lead meaningful long-term change, not only in our supply chain, but beyond.”

Marco Gonçalves, Chief Procurement & Hazelnut Company Officer



JUNE 2021

Francesco Tramontin, Vice President EU Institutional Relations and Group Public Policy Center at Ferrero, participated in the Save the Children online webinar: “The future of child labour eradication in supply chains”



NOVEMBER 2021

The article for the World Cocoa Foundation written by Camilla Stecca, Senior Program Manager at Save the Children, was published on 22nd November.

The article explains how the final objective of the five-year project, born from the partnership between Save the Children and Ferrero, is to identify and eliminate child labour from the cocoa supply chain in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana, more specifically in the areas that have shown to have a closer correlation with the risk of child labour.

Marta Moroni for Save the Children



DECEMBER 2021

Ferrero was one of the speakers at the Virtual Forum on Human Rights & Business, organized by EU “State of play of child labour, root causes, pandemic impact and steps needed to eradicate it: a local to global dialogue.”

Save the Children believes every child deserves a future. In Italy and around the world, we work every day to give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm.

When crisis strikes, and children are most vulnerable, we are always among the first to respond and the last to leave. We ensure children's unique needs are met and their voices are heard.

We deliver lasting results for millions of children, including those hardest to reach. We do whatever it takes for children – every day and in times of crisis – to transform their lives and the future we share.



Save the Children

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