



# *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

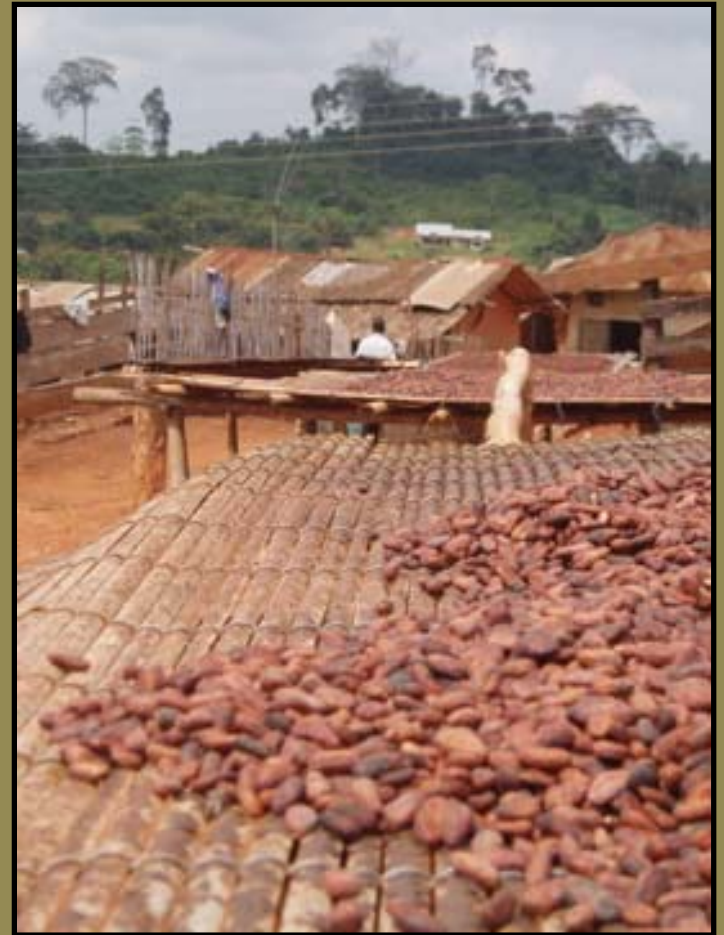


# REDD & Realities of the Cocoa Farmer

- 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](http://www.kuapakokoo.com)