

CHILD LABOUR MONITORING & REMEDIATION IN THE SCINPA COOPERATIVE

Olam Cocoa, cote d'Ivoire sustainability team

Established in 2003, SCINPA (Société Coopérative Ivoirienne du Négoce des Produits Agricoles) is a small farmers' cooperative of 870 farmers, of which 43 are women. Located in Agboville, around 80 km from the capital Abidjan, its main activity is the collection of member grown cocoa and the selling of the beans on their behalf. As part of Olam's supply chain, SCINPA is committed to the eradication of child labour on cocoa farms and has set up a Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) composed of 21 agents monitoring all member farms.



New classrooms built by SCINPA at Seguié School to reduce the number of children in each class to improve learning

In 2016/2017, the CLMRS team undertook profiling of farmers' and workers' households and communities through the Olam Farmer Information System, which registers the number and age of children and if they are attending school or living within proximity of one, in addition to unannounced farm inspections. Through these activities, the CLMRS team identified 644 children at risk of child labour due to a lack of birth certificates (required for school entry), the unaffordability of school supplies or insufficient school equipment such as benches to accommodate all children in the community.

In the communities of Ehoueguié, Loviguié, Ottopé and Anno, the household profiling identified 503 children of school age without birth certificates, and therefore unable to attend school. The findings from the CLMRS activities led SCINPA to undertake the following remediation actions:

- Remediation actions undertaken in 2016:
 - secured 392 birth certificates for the children of farmer cooperative members from Anno, including for those not yet of school age
- Remediation actions undertaken in 2017:
 - Construction of 3 additional classrooms in Seguié's primary school and 3 additional classrooms in Ehoueguié's 2 primary schools, which helped to reduce the number of children in each classroom from 70 to 45
 - Distribution of 205 school kits to children identified in child labour cases related to lack of money for school supplies

- Replacement of 50 school benches at Ehoueguié's primary school



School children eating lunch at Seguié primary school, beneath a SCINPA built covering

This year, following Olam Cocoa CLMRS training which focused on the importance of developing alternate income generating activities (IGA) to reduce the vulnerability of at risk families, the cooperative has decided to place emphasis on introducing IGA as part of their coming remediation activities for 2018. This initiative will be conducted at both individual and group level for families with children facing a high risk of engaging in child labour.