ITC-Alliances for Action at BIOFACH 2023

Our programmes, our network, our projects
The International Trade Centre (ITC) is the joint agency of the World Trade Organization and the United Nations. ITC is the only development agency that is fully dedicated to supporting the internationalization of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

At Biofach, we represent selected ITC programmes and their partners.

**Visit us at Booth 8-449 to get to know African and Caribbean chocolate made at cocoa origin: Sustainable business that supports local communities and high-quality production.**

**Alliances for Action:**

ITC’s Alliances for Action programme initiative leverages partnerships for sustainable food systems. It does this through partnerships that cultivate ethical, climate-smart, sustainable agricultural value chains.

We aim at achieving resilience and growth for farmers and MSMEs through more mindful and responsible trade, production and consumption systems and improved opportunities to compete on a global market.

**ACP Business-Friendly Programme:**

This programme is jointly funded by the European Union and the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and jointly implemented with the World Bank and UNIDO. It supports cocoa, coconut, coffee, cotton and kava value chains through inclusive policies, investment promotion and alliances. It is implemented using the A4A approach.

It seeks to improve the ability of agribusiness firms in ACP countries to compete, grow and prosper in domestic, regional and international markets, ultimately generating inclusive, sustainable jobs and economic growth.

**Netherlands Trust Fund - Phase V - Agribusiness and Digital Technology:**

ITC’s NTFV programme is designed to contribute to decent jobs and improved livelihoods in the agribusiness, agritech and digital technology sectors. Our programme includes both sectors in Ethiopia, Ghana, Senegal, and the digital technologies sector in a multi-country project in Benin, Cote d’Ivoire, Mali and Uganda. In Ethiopia, Ghana and Senegal, ITC’s Alliances for Action Agribusiness is working with smallholder farmers and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) focused on coffee, cocoa, cashew and associated crops.
Chocolate and Cocoa product brands from ITC’s network in Ghana
FAIRA FRIC GHANA

Fairafric Ghana Limited is an organic chocolate manufacturing company located in the Suhum, Eastern Region of Ghana. Fairafric produces world-class chocolate from bean to bar right here in Ghana.

**Story:** Fairafric is revolutionizing the chocolate industry in Ghana by producing world-class chocolate from bean to bar on the spot. While about 70% of the world’s cocoa is produced in Africa, mostly Ivory Coast and Ghana, the percentage these countries get to enjoy of the global cocoa value chain and chocolate industry is less than 6%. Fairafric aims to change this narrative by adding value to the cocoa beans by making chocolate and exporting a greater share to Europe to increase the income generated in the cocoa sector. More jobs are created in the country with the establishment of the factory. We also aim to improve the lives of the farmers and communities involved in cocoa farming by paying a premium for organic cocoa beans. The factory is situated in a cocoa-growing community, hence providing direct and indirect jobs to the community.

**Representative:** Michael Marmon-Halm
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**CHOCOLATE SPECS:**

Organic chocolate products including chocolate bars, mango slices dipped in dark chocolate, pineapple slices dipped in dark chocolate, mango fruit balls, pineapple fruit balls, chocolate drops, pralines, hazelnuts coated with chocolate, almonds coated with chocolate, cashew nuts coated with chocolate. May contain nuts.

**Certifications:** FSSC 22000, Made in Africa, Bio Organic.
PLOT ENTERPRISE GHANA LIMITED

Ghanaian manufacturer that processes raw cocoa beans into semi-finished products for export.

**Story:** Plot Enterprise Ghana Limited (PEGL), is a woman-owned Ghanaian cocoa processing company that operates in the Free Zone Enclave in the industrial area of the port city of Takoradi, in the Western Region of Ghana.

PEGL started operations in 2010. It undertakes cocoa processing, export of processed cocoa products and cocoa, and export of other agricultural products. PEGL processes raw cocoa beans into semi-finished products (natural cocoa liquor, natural cocoa butter and natural cocoa cake for export). PEGL customers include confectionery, bakery & biscuit firms, and others within the cocoa product supply chain.

**Representative:** Ignatius Amoah
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**PRODUCT SPECS:**

**NATURAL COCOA LIQUOR**
100% cocoa liquor

**NATURAL COCOA BUTTER**
100% cocoa butter

**NATURAL COCOA CAKE**
100% cocoa cake

**Certification:** Ghana Food and Drugs Authority, UTZ, Fairtrade, BRC, FSSC 22000, Halal, Kosher, Rainforest Alliance, Organic.
Chocolate and Cocoa product brands from ITC’s network in the Caribbean
CACAO FLORENCIO ORTEGA

**Country:** Dominican Republic

CACAO FLORENCIO ORTEGA, a family business dedicated to the production and marketing of organic cocoa for the local and international markets. With a farm located in the beautiful community of La Piragua, Gaspar Hernández, Espaillat Province, in the foothills of the Northern Cordillera, is bathed by sea winds and the essential conditions to obtain the best cocoa. It’s a farm with an extension of 100 tasks, certified organic, it also buys cocoa from producers in the area, with the capacity to production of 20 metric tons per year.

Good agricultural practices are used, friendly to the environment, which respects natural cycles, promotes growth traditional in the production of cocoa, which is carried out with traditional management and production in all the tasks that are run the same way for decades.

**Story:** Florencio Ortega inherited the cocoa production from his father and established the company with purchases from other small producers in 2000. He was a producer who was passionate about growing cocoa and hoped that small associated producers could enter the international market. In 2008, the company exported its product to Sweden and Switzerland. In 2018 his daughter, an agronomist engineer, decided to honor his memory and continue his legacy.

In 2021 Jens Kamim, from Definite chocolate, made the first tablet using the cocoa with a bean to bar philosophy. In 2022, Choco Punto started producing bars and competed in the 2022 Academy of Chocolate Awards; our cocoa won two bronze medals in the dark bean-to-bar category (less than 90%). In the year 2022, Heritage Chocolate launched a new bar based on our cocoa. Now the niche market is Europe and Japan, where there is good acceptance.

**Representative:** Yluminada Ortega and Emilio de Jesus Osoria

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**CHOCOLATE SPECS:**

We offer organic cocoa beans, fermented to a high quality through an entirely handmade process. The fermentation is carried out in wooden boxes with seven days of fermentation, and cocoa is sun-dried and with wooden dryers and the grains are cleaned manually.

**Certifications:** Organic EU/NOP.
CONACADO AGROINDUSTRIAL

Country: Dominican Republic

We are a Dominican cocoa farmers group working at every step of the cocoa value chain from farming and post-harvest management to processing and trading. We are the largest local exporter in the Dominican Republic and the largest global supplier in the export of organic cocoa.

Story: We represent over 9,000 farmers, organized into 162 farmers’ associations distributed across 7 production regions in the Dominican Republic. We produce 16,000 tonnes of high-quality cocoa a year, most of which is certified Organic EU/NOP/BIOSUISSE and also Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, Fair for Life and Hand in Hand, ssc22000 and Kosher.

Founded within the framework of an International Cooperation project financed by the German Agency for Technical Cooperation 1985 -1990 (GTZ-SEA), Conacado has evolved from a group of disadvantaged producers to become the largest local exporter in the Dominican Republic and the largest global supplier in the export of organic cocoa.

Representative: Abel Fernandez
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CHOCOLATE SPECS:

Cocoa and derivatives.
Certifications: Organic EU/NOP; Biosuisse, Fairtrade, Rainforest, Fair for Life, Hand in Hand, ssc22000 and Kosher.
CLAC-FAIRTRADE

Region: Caribbean and Latin America

The Latin American and Caribbean Network of Fair Trade Small Producers and Workers (CLAC) co-owns the Fairtrade International system. CLAC is the network that represents all organizations certified as “Fairtrade” in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as other organizations of fair trade; its mission is to represent and promote the interests, empowerment and development of its members and communities.

Story: CLAC was established in 2004, and has had legal status since 2005. Its roots are in the CLA (Latin American Network, which brought together small-scale coffee fair trade farmers) and the PAUAL (Latin American Network of Small Beekeepers), two continental networks of small producers, both founded in 1996, a year before the establishment of FLO.

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CHOCOLATE SPECS:

FAIRTRADE-certified coffee, cacao, quinoa, sugar cane, honey, wine, banana, fresh fruit, juices, dried fruits & nuts.

Certifications: Fairtrade.
CONNECT WITH US

ITC is pleased to enable cocoa producers and entrepreneurs to attend Biofach 2023 in Nuremberg, and to help pave the way for new sustainable partnerships in the cocoa sector.

**If you wish to learn more about ITC’s inclusive agribusiness projects and understand how to collaborate with us, please reach out to:**

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