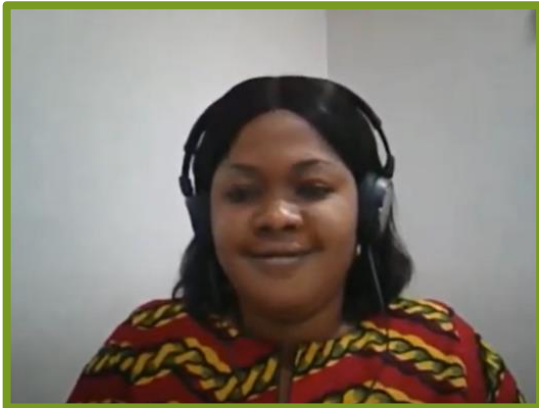




Forum Nachhaltiger Kakao German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa

INPUT PRESENTATION – „Living Income for Cocoa Farmers and Child Labor Free Cocoa – What follows from the EU Cocoa Talks?“



© German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa

Aminata Bamba, Head of Sustainability at ECOOKIM, a cooperative union in Côte d'Ivoire, emphasised in her presentation that a living income could only be made possible through the interaction of all actors involved. Smallholder farmers must, on the one hand, "apply good agricultural practices" and, on the other hand, "diversify their sources of income" in order to be better protected against market fluctuations. As the price of cocoa falls in the

market, some kind of compensation mechanism is needed to offset this price drop, Bamba said. She stressed that it is also particularly important for smallholder farmers to be able to make investments in order to escape poverty in the long term. For this, however, a fair price for cocoa is indispensable. According to a Fairtrade study published in July 2021, only about 15 percent of the millions of coffee and cocoa farmers in Côte d'Ivoire currently earn a living income, Bamba explained. Since poverty is the main cause of child labour, certification and monitoring systems are needed at the cooperative level to ensure the traceability of cocoa in order to counteract child labour. At the same time, Bamba concluded in her presentation that it is essential to support producers in the cocoa sector as well as local civil society in the producing countries to work towards a fair cocoa price. In this regard, she said, both policymakers at the EU level and the industry have a duty to act.

The recordings of the event can be found [here](#) (presentation A. Bamba from 45:00).



German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa | Secretariat

c/o GIZ GmbH | Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
65760 Eschborn | Germany

Tel.: +49 6196 79-1462 | Fax: +49 6196 7980-1462

