

A photograph of three women standing in a field of tall sugarcane stalks. The woman on the left is wearing a white t-shirt and a red wrap with a white and gold pattern. The woman in the center is wearing a colorful patterned top and a yellow wrap. The woman on the right is wearing a white top with a red and orange pattern and a purple wrap with white text. An orange circle with the 'Divine CHOCOLATE' logo is positioned above the women.

*Divine*TM
CHOCOLATE

Impact Report

2019-2020

Divine Chocolate is a global social enterprise driven by a mission.

2019/2020 highlights

Climate Justice

- 1,569 farmers received Forest-Friendly cocoa training in Sierra Leone
- 75% of farmers adopted practices that improve productivity/quality or protect the environment in Sierra Leone
- +2,000 trees planted, covering 3 ha and including 465 tree species in Malawi



We champion the needs of farmers, improving their lives and those of their families, so that together we build a sustainable and fair world.

We are the only Fairtrade chocolate company that is co-owned by cocoa farmers. This means smallholder farmers receive a share of the distributable profits from the sale of our chocolate, and a say in how the company is run.

In this year's report, we look at our partnerships with cocoa and sugar farmer co-operatives and how they are translating into better livelihoods and more empowered farming communities.

Committed to Fairtrade

- 670 tonnes of cocoa bought
- 189 tonnes of sugar bought
- \$11,363 Fairtrade premium paid to sugar farmers



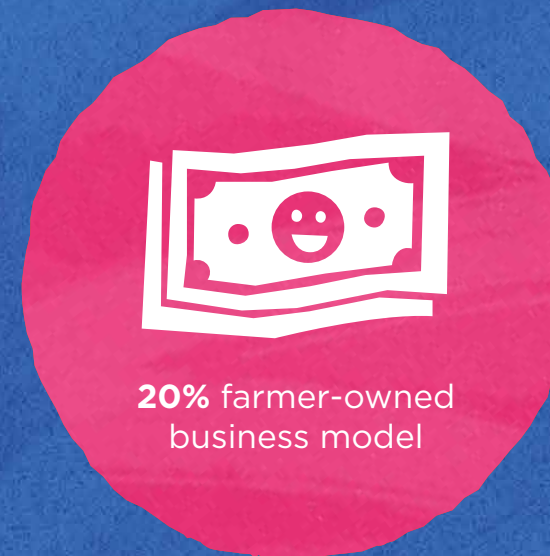
Awards and recognition

- International Fairtrade Award for Fairtrader of the Year
- Blue Patch Award for Global Impact



Investing in farming communities

- 2% annual turnover invested through the Divine Producer Support and Development Fund in the financial year 2019/20
- Ongoing partnerships with 4 farmer cooperatives
- 235 learners enrolled in the Adult Literacy Programme in Ghana
- 1161 tenancy agreements between farmers and tenants as part of the Labour Rights Project in Ghana





Foreword by Cord Budde, CEO of Divine Chocolate and Ludwig Weinrich GmbH & Co.

There's no doubt that 2020 was one of the most challenging years of my 28 years in the chocolate business. COVID-19 changed all our lives in unimaginable ways and impacted health and livelihoods worldwide.

At the same time, Divine Chocolate was in need of financial support to continue its operations and grow the business. As one of my most important partners for the last two decades, I saw an opportunity to invest in a company that has been a pioneer in the Fairtrade chocolate business for more than 20 years. Together with Kuapa Kokoo, a founding shareholder with 20% shares and 40% board representation, we made the decision to deepen our commitment and build on our long-standing shared history as partners in Divine.

It was in 1998 that the wonderful former CEO of Divine, Sophi Tranchell, first contacted me and asked if we could produce a chocolate made with Fairtrade raw materials for her social enterprise. Our strong partnership has evolved to include a wide range of delicious, premium Divine chocolates. In the early 2000's, Sophi encouraged me to visit the cocoa farmers of Kuapa Kokoo. I am truly grateful that I took this opportunity to meet these wonderful people. To build our relationship and mutual understanding,

we in turn invited the farmers of Kuapa Kokoo to visit our factory and see with their own eyes what happens to their cocoa. I have been fortunate to travel to Ghana every year since and visit my friends at Kuapa Kokoo.

Through this relationship, my view of the chocolate industry has changed dramatically. We have learnt much about the needs of farmers and what we must do to improve their lives and support their communities. Paying a Fairtrade premium for cocoa is a first step towards supporting quality livelihoods and delivering positive outcomes for farmers. Beyond Fairtrade, Divine has always supported farmers through its Producer Support & Development (PS&D) fund. It puts farmers voices and their priorities at the heart of project decisions and this report highlights some of the great progress that has been achieved through Divine's PS&D fund.

COVID-19 may have had a disruptive impact on our business and our producers, but we have shown what can be achieved when we pull together with mutual support and partnership. As we emerge from the pandemic, I am very much looking forward to seeing Divine grow from strength to strength, supported by a fantastic team and great partners like Kuapa Kokoo!

“I am very much looking forward to seeing Divine grow from strength to strength, supported by a fantastic team and great partners like Kuapa Kokoo”





*Foreword by Madam Fatima Ali,
President of Kuapa Kokoo Farmers' Union*

Divine Chocolate and Kuapa Kokoo share a proud history. Having pioneered Fairtrade since 1995, it was the farmers of the Kuapa Kokoo Co-operative in Ghana who voted in 1997 to set up their own chocolate company (later becoming known as Divine Chocolate) and committed to doing business differently.

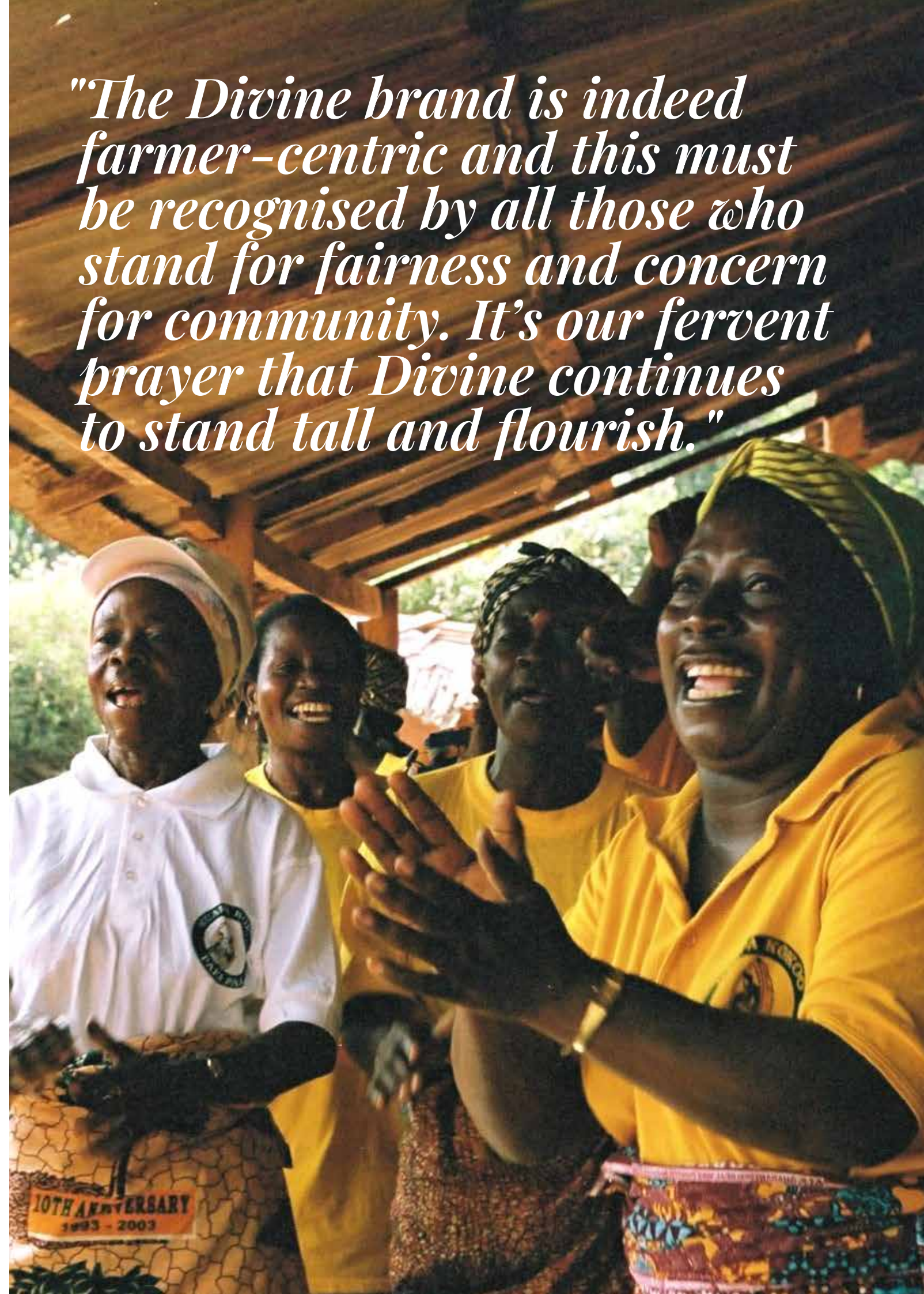
Kuapa Kokoo is a flourishing organisation of over 100,000 members who produce a significant percentage of Ghana's cocoa for export. We pride ourselves in growing cocoa that is 'Pa Pa Paa' – 'Best of the Best'.

In May 2020, Kuapa Kokoo and Weinrich agreed to adopt a strategic partnership structure to support the future growth of our enterprise. The partnership recognises the crucial importance of Kuapa Kokoo's continued influence in the company and will ensure farmers voices continue to be represented and heard. We are pleased that Kuapa Kokoo will maintain 40% board influence and remain a Divine shareholder.

Having laid strong foundations, the Producer Support & Development (PS&D) project teams continue to expand the reach of the Labour Rights and Literacy programmes to benefit more societies in Ghana, with positive impacts evident in local communities.

The Divine brand is indeed farmer-centric, and this must be recognised by all those who stand for fairness and concern for community. It's our fervent prayer that Divine continues to stand tall and flourish.

"The Divine brand is indeed farmer-centric and this must be recognised by all those who stand for fairness and concern for community. It's our fervent prayer that Divine continues to stand tall and flourish."



The Divine Difference

Divine Chocolate is a global social enterprise driven by a mission. From award-winning chocolate to an innovative business model that champions farmers, we're committed to doing business differently. We're the only Fairtrade chocolate company that is co-owned by cocoa farmers.

Our mission is to champion the needs of farmers, improving their lives and those of their families, so that together we create a fair and sustainable world.

Our unique business model

Our business model reflects the belief that producers should earn a share of the profits they help to create, and have a say in their future. That's why one of the shareholders of Divine Chocolate is Kuapa Kokoo Farmers' Union, a co-operative of 100,000 cocoa farmers in Ghana who grow the finest quality cocoa for our Divine products. Kuapa Kokoo's 20% ownership stake in Divine Chocolate is a first in the Fairtrade chocolate world.

Our strong commitment to 'doing business differently' aims to set an example to catalyse change throughout the business world. We consider people and planet in everything we do and we strive to address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – specific targets set out by the UN aimed at ending poverty, fighting inequality and tackling climate change.

The complex world of cocoa & chocolate

Did you know? Ghana and the Ivory Coast together cultivate more than half of the world's cocoa. There are approximately 800,000 cocoa farms in Ghana, and 60% of farmers in Ghana rely on cocoa for their main income.

However, while the chocolate industry is valued at over \$100 billion worldwide, cocoa farmers typically only earn as little as \$1 per day (about 72p). Gender inequality and child labour are common issues in cocoa growing communities, driven by poverty and poor access to education. Poverty has also driven cocoa farmers to expand farms into forest areas, contributing to deforestation and climate change.

With so many complex issues involved in the cocoa supply chain, third party certification initiatives such as Fairtrade play a crucial role in helping to change the cocoa industry for the better and to provide accountability and honesty in a sector that is dominated by a small number of large companies. Traceability – understanding the journey of a cocoa bean from bean to bar – provides transparency over the care and effort farmers put into growing their cocoa and helps to ensure issues like child labour and deforestation are not present. This means consumers can have confidence in the chocolate they buy.

While positive steps are being made towards helping farmers move out of the poverty cycle, Divine recognises more needs to be done from both a company and a sector level. We will continue championing the needs of farmers in order to enable the producers we work with to achieve sustainable livelihoods, so that together we can realise our vision of an industry where farmers thrive and prosper.



Putting fairness first

Because we use only Fairtrade cocoa, the farmers who supply us receive a guaranteed minimum price of \$2400 per tonne of cocoa. This protects them from potential price drops in the market. We also pay a Fairtrade premium of \$240 per tonne of cocoa that they can invest in their communities.



farmer

owned

Achieving Sustainable Livelihoods

What do we mean by sustainable livelihoods?

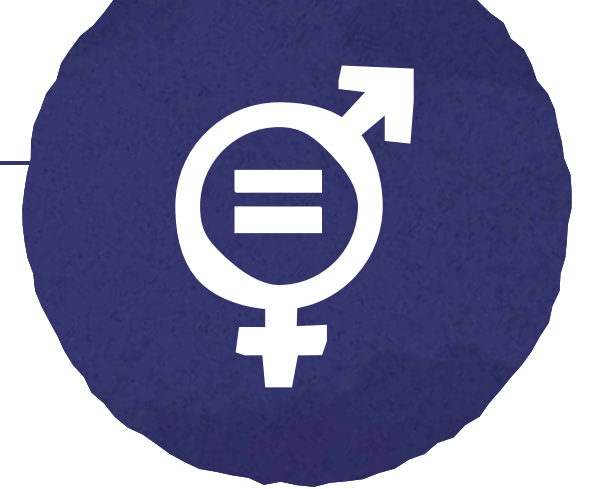
At Divine, achieving sustainable livelihoods means enabling smallholder cocoa farmers and their households to achieve a good standard of living and be resilient to stresses and shocks, such as the impacts of climate change, market fluctuations and global pandemics.

Changing lives with our Producer Support and Development fund

2% of the income we make from selling chocolate has been invested directly in farmer-led programmes through our Producer Support and Development fund. It focuses our efforts and investments on five key areas that are fundamental to enabling farming communities to achieve sustainable livelihoods.

Gender justice

Ensuring women have the opportunity to flourish leads to better outcomes for communities and businesses. Our projects focus on education, training, women's economic empowerment and addressing land rights.

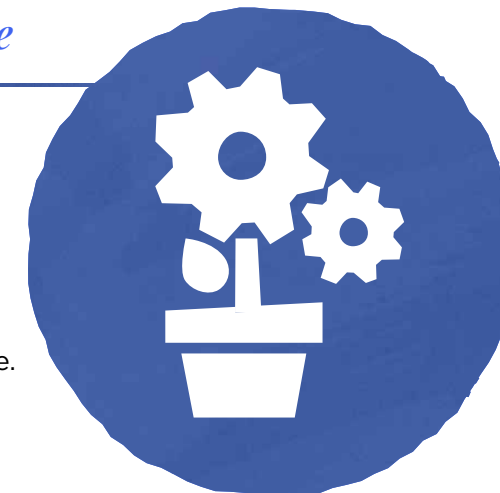


Strong organisations

Cooperation between farmers brings multiple benefits through shared learning and resources, increased influence and spreading income across communities. Our projects enable organisations to work collectively and democratically, with transparency and accountability.

Sustainable agriculture

Good agricultural methods enable farmers to increase productivity, protect the environment and adapt to climate change. Our projects also support diversification and agroforestry to promote biodiversity and farmer resilience.



Learning and leading

Meaningful change requires long-term collaboration and participatory learning and leading with farmers.

Divine is a leader in championing positive change in the cocoa industry. We share best practice, collaborate on solutions and galvanise support from other companies and consumers.



Labour rights

High labour standards protect the rights of the poor and vulnerable, including children. Our project addresses labour risks in the cocoa supply chain to ensure good practice standards and protects the rights of farming communities.

Understanding community needs

Our holistic, farmer-centric approach ensures we invest in projects that support farmer households and communities to increase resilience and secure sustainable livelihoods. We work with farmer co-operatives to identify and understand local investment needs. Although projects vary depending on the needs of each farmer group and country, tackling the root causes of poverty is a common theme in all cocoa and sugar growing communities.

Kuapa Kokoo Farmers' Union



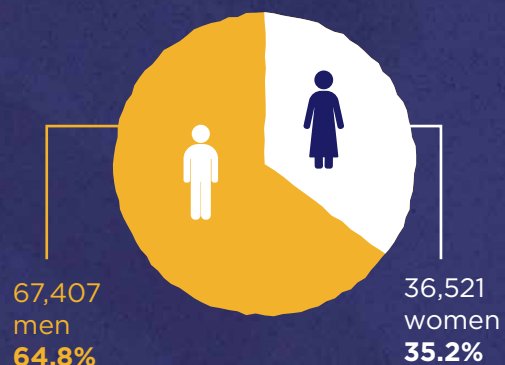
In 1993 a group of cocoa farmers in Ghana came together with a vision to set up a new co-operative based on Fairtrade principles that ensured more benefits for cocoa farmers. Kuapa Kokoo, meaning 'good cocoa farmer' was established. It was then in 1997 that the Kuapa Kokoo farmers voted to set up their own chocolate company where they would gain a greater share of the wealth they were creating. From that vision Divine Chocolate was born.

Today Kuapa Kokoo is a co-operative of over 100,000 cocoa farmers, making it the largest Fairtrade cocoa cooperative in the world. Kuapa Kokoo owns a 20% share in Divine Chocolate. Two of its representatives, Fatima Ali and Nelson Adubofour, sit on the Divine Board.

Divine is proud to have a long history of working closely with the farmers of Kuapa Kokoo, listening, sharing and developing programmes in co-operation. Our areas of focus include continuing the successful roll out of the Adult Literacy and Numeracy Programme with the aim to increase literacy and numeracy levels among cocoa farmers (especially women) so that they can fully participate in the co-operative. Furthermore, after a successful year we are extending the reach of our Labour Rights programme to more communities, with the aim to ensure fair labour practices and protect the rights of tenant farmers.

Members:

103,928



Districts/associations:

57

Certification:



Fairtrade



Empowering communities with literacy and numeracy skills training

We piloted our first Adult Literacy and Numeracy Programme with Kuapa Kokoo in 2014. Our aim is to increase basic literacy and numeracy skills, particularly among women, to support empowerment and engagement.

What have we done?

Despite delays to the start of the programme due to COVID-19, it was successfully delivered in three societies from September 2020: Ofoase, Suhun and Asamankese. To ensure safe delivery, advice on social distancing and hygiene provisions were supplied.

What have we learnt?

Feedback from participants has been positive with many keen to continue their learning journey. One of the main motivations for members participating in this programme is to assist their children with homework. Other leading motivations include engaging in costing and pricing activities and reading the weighing scale when they send their cocoa to the recorder or purchasing clerk. Based on observations and feedback from the participants the class cycle has been extended from 5 months to 9 months, which gives more time to deliver the course and support the participants in their learning journey.

What's next?

In 2021, the programme will be rolled out to three more societies - Assin Breku, Assin Fosu and Cape Coast. Societies currently involved will continue their classes until June 2021.

Did you know?

Studies have shown a correlation between higher literacy levels and reduced incidences of child labour. There are cases of parents being able to engage more with their children's education and in some instances new skills being directly involved in improving earning potential. This is particularly true in the case of women's literacy, demonstrating how impactful improving women's literacy could be in cocoa communities.

Our impact



235

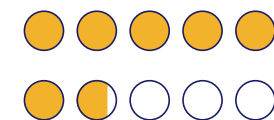
total enrolled learners

73%

women

19%

of attendees had never been to school



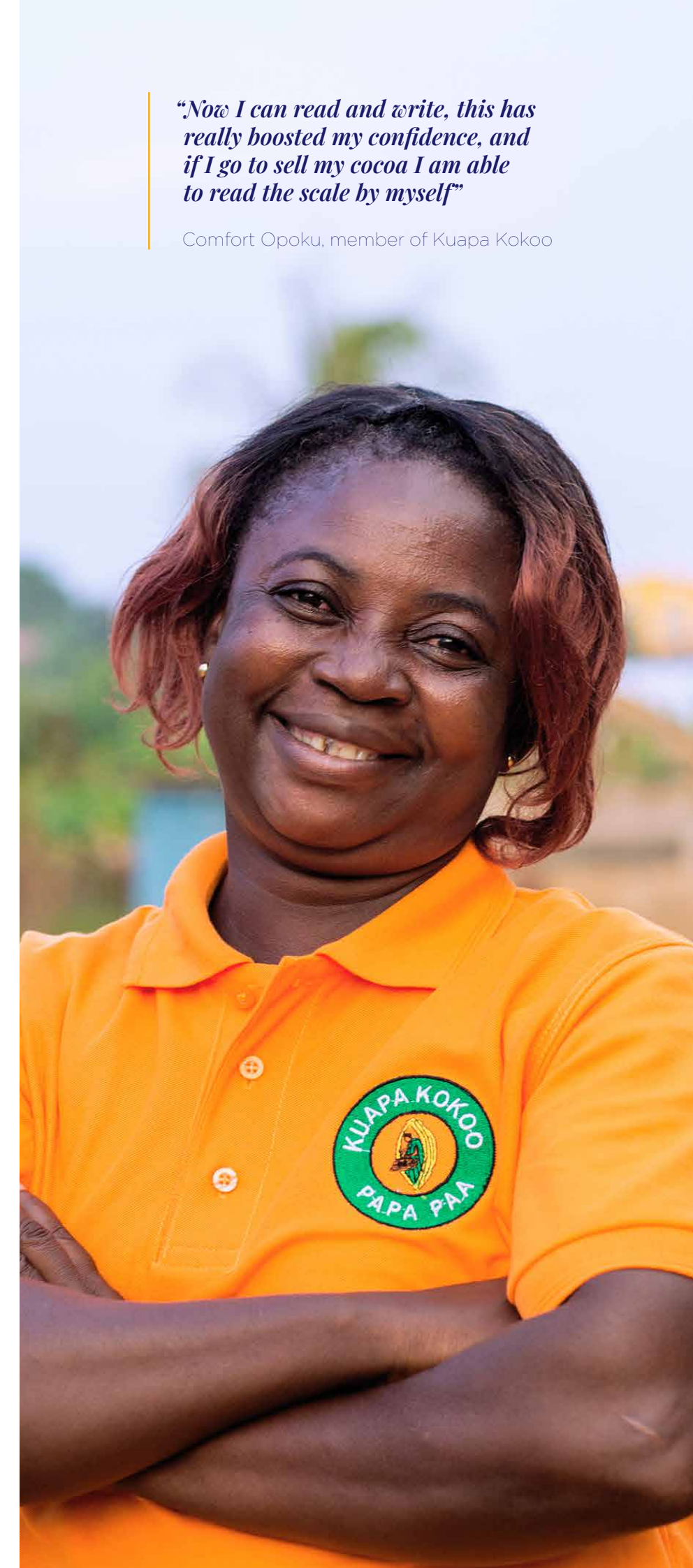
68% average attendance

40-60 years

Average age of learners

"Now I can read and write, this has really boosted my confidence, and if I go to sell my cocoa I am able to read the scale by myself"

Comfort Opoku, member of Kuapa Kokoo



Championing the rights of tenant farmers

Our Labour Rights Project addresses concerns around the use of labour in supply chains and focuses on the treatment of hired labour in the industry. It facilitates and promotes the signing of tenancy agreements between farmers and tenants to ensure fair labour practices and minimise disputes over expectations and benefits.

Working in partnership with Divine, Kuapa Kokoo has become a pioneer in addressing the labour rights of tenants in the cocoa industry. It is an issue which is not currently being addressed by any other cooperative, producer or chocolate company in Ghana. Our approach includes establishing Labour Rights Committees to help resolve farm tenancy disputes and support awareness raising activities, relationship building and record keeping.

What have we done?

In Cycle 1, 424 tenancy agreements between Kuapa members and their tenant farmers were signed in Dadieso and Wassa Akropong societies (against a target of 300). A further 130 tenancy agreements were signed in Juaboso and Asawinso societies in Cycle 2. We did not meet our Cycle 2 target of 300 agreements due to delays caused by COVID-19. Labour Rights Committees were established and trained in both Juaboso and Asawinso societies.

"[When] there was no document, there was always conflict between the farmer and the caretaker. But now that I have a written document, it has helped me a lot. Because the document is there, everything is shared accordingly."

Male tenant, Dankwakrom

What have we learnt?

Dr Kristy Leissle has undertaken research and produced a report and policy recommendations paper to highlight Divine and Kuapa Kokoo as trailblazers in labour rights. It highlights the importance of recognising cocoa tenants and caretakers as a legal category with specific rights and the importance of tenancy agreements as a helpful and neutral tool to prevent and help mitigate against conflict and tenant abandonment.

"Since its inception in 2015, Kuapa Kokoo Labour Rights Project has been the industry leader in understanding cocoa tenant labour rights, and an innovator in protecting those rights through written agreements." Dr. Kristy Leissle

What's next?

We will expand the Labour Rights Project to two more societies, Nkawie and Nyinahin, in 2021. These societies will receive awareness raising and training, and Labour Rights Committees will be established to enable them to begin signing tenancy agreements. Tenancy agreement signings and the work of Committees in mediating disputes will continue in all societies involved in the project so far. We will continue to evolve and strengthen the programme as we review the results and incorporate recommendations from the recent report and policy paper.

Did you know?

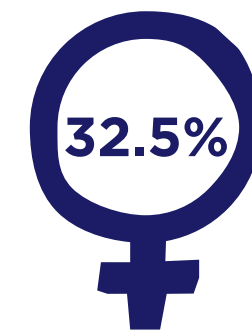
Most sustainability efforts in the cocoa sector are aimed at cocoa farmers, generally considered to be the landowner. However, many people working on cocoa farms are neither hired labourers nor farm owners but are tenants. Few sustainability systems have taken tenant farmers into account, but Divine and Kuapa Kokoo have been working to protect tenant rights since 2015.



Our impact:



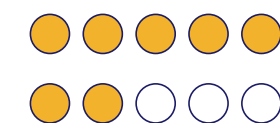
tenancy agreements signed between 2019-2020, bringing the total to 1,161 tenancy agreements signed



of signatories are women

162

zones in four districts in Western region covered by the labour rights project



70%

of disputes resolved within 6 months

145

Labour Rights Committees have been formed, with 435 members

CECAQ-11



Cooperativa de Exportação de Cacao de Qualidade (or CECAQ-11) is a Fairtrade and Organic certified cocoa cooperative based in the southern part of the African island nation of São Tomé and Príncipe. Due to its rich volcanic soil and location, the island is well suited for the cultivation of premium cocoa. With a population of around 215,000, cocoa is its most important export product. We began working with CECAQ-11 to supply the cocoa for Divine's Organic range since 2018.

Our work together so far has focused on sustainable agriculture as a means to promote good agricultural methods which are organic, regenerative, adaptive to climate change and increase productivity on existing land.

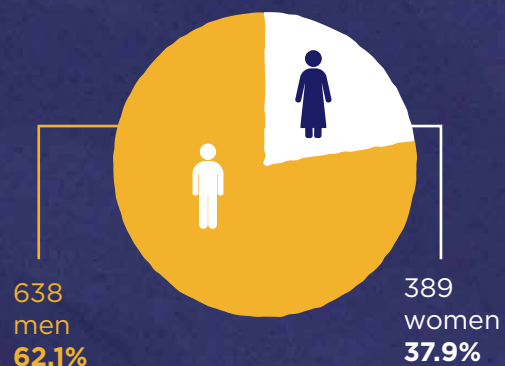
We also run a Gender Justice programme which aims to create an enabling environment for women cocoa farmers by increasing access to resources and training. The programme includes workshops to raise awareness of women's work and unpaid work with the goal of challenging the social norms that maintain the status quo.

"The continual support of Divine despite all these challenges is so important and is another contribution towards improving the lives of the members of CECAQ-11."

Adalberto Luis, CEO CECAQ-11

Members:

1,027



Districts/associations:

20

Certification:



Fairtrade



Organic



What have we done?

CECAQ-11 has been the most affected by COVID-19 of any of the cooperatives we work with. For a major part of the year, CECAQ-11's focus has been on mitigating impacts and ensuring food security for members. Despite this, some progress was made on pruning, organic compost production and training for members on grafting. A learning exchange between newer and more established members also took place.

What have we learnt?

During a participatory community consultation we led two years ago, we heard from women farmers that agricultural training (pruning, shade control and grafting) was a priority but that they had been overlooked and only the male members of the cooperative could access training. As a result, we developed a new programme focus specifically for women. They have received training on good agricultural practices, awareness-raising workshops on gender roles and training and support on land titles and social security laws.

What's next?

Activities will continue in 2021 and will include additional support to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The focus on sustainable agriculture will lead to training sessions in Good Agricultural Practices that in turn will support farmers to increase productivity. The gender justice workstream will also continue to run, supporting the inclusion of women and raising awareness on the roles, responsibilities and division of labour.

Did you know?

Pigs and other livestock can be valuable for cocoa farmers with the manure they produce used to create Organic compost. However, they need to be kept separate from the cocoa trees so they do not cause them damage!



Our impact:

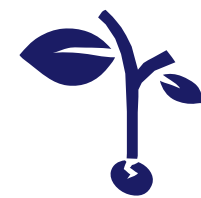
Exchange visit between

20

members to share best agricultural practices



84 women attended a training session on pruning and grafting



10 ha

of land pruned

6000 kg

of organic compost distributed between members





NGOLEAGORBU Cocoa Farmers’ Union



Ngoleagorbu Cocoa Farmers’ Union (NGOCFU) is a cooperative of cocoa farmers living on the edge of the Gola Rainforest in Sierra Leone, one of the last remaining fragments of West Africa’s ancient rainforest. ‘Ngoleagorbu’ means ‘We who live at the edge of the forest’.

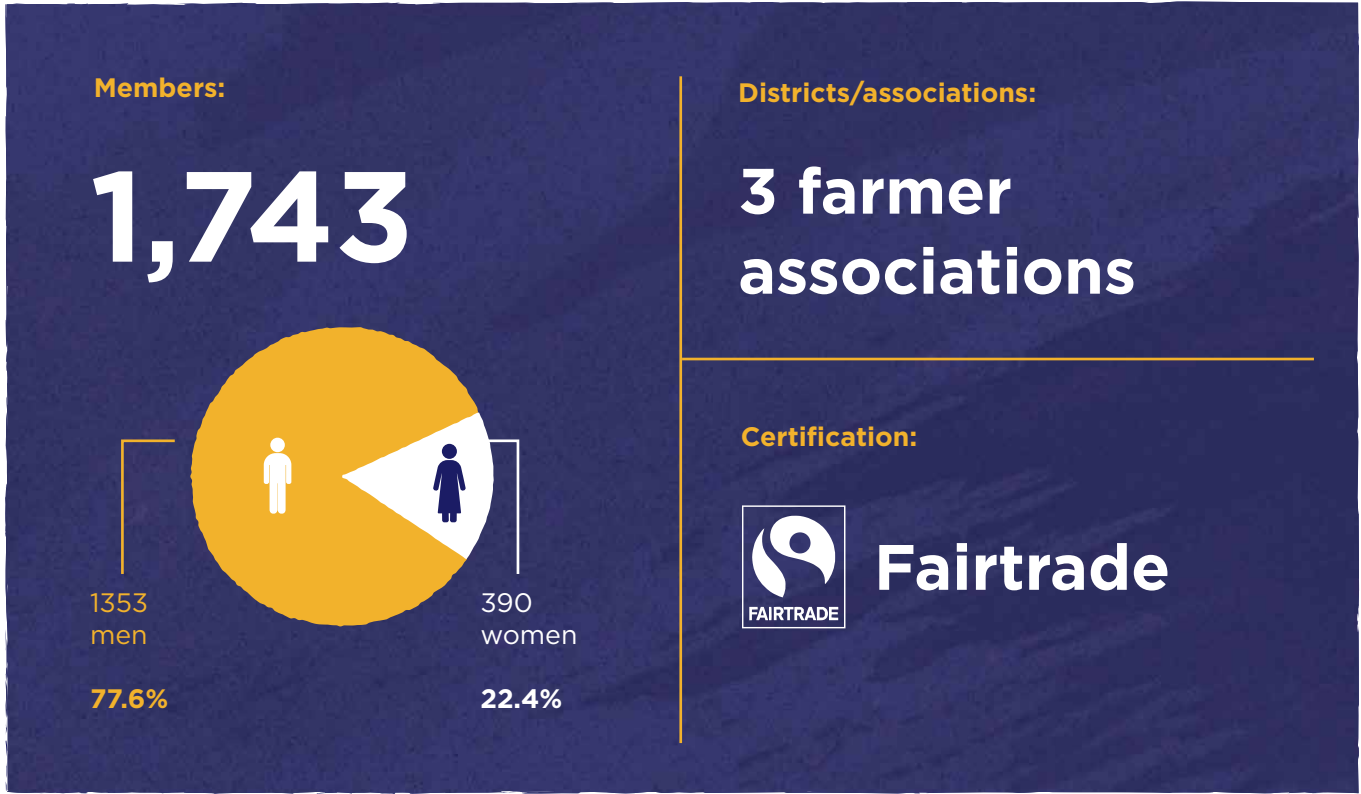
We have been working with NGOCFU since 2018. Divine is leading on an innovative pilot project with the Cocoa Origins programme* to develop the first Forest-Friendly Cocoa Vision, criteria and practices which can be replicated in other cocoa supply chains and origins.

*www.idhsustainabletrade.com/initiative/cocoa-origins

The Forest-Friendly approach is about working together to farm sustainably, protect the rainforest and support the sustainable livelihoods of forest-frontier farmers and their organisations. Funded by IDH (Sustainable Trade Initiative), the project will build knowledge in the cocoa sector and improve the livelihoods of farmers living on the edge of the Gola Rainforest.

“Since the cooperative was formed, women now take part in leadership roles and have key responsibilities. We feel more empowered in our community.”

Lucia Mansaray, member of NGOLEAGORBU



"The rainforest protects us by cleaning the air we breathe and providing fresh water for our farms and communities. So we protect the forest. We don't farm there, we don't log the trees, and we do not go there to fish or hunt".

Sidie Sesay, member of NGOLEAGORBU

What have we done?

We have continued to work with the farmers to strengthen their organisation and build capacity to increase visibility in the supply chain. NGOCFU has made significant and exciting progress this year, securing their own export licence in July 2020. This makes them the first Fairtrade producer group operating as both producer and exporter in Sierra Leone.

We have had to review and adapt some of our plans in light of COVID-19. The development of a gender policy and gender action plan for the cooperative and its members and training on social norms and gender roles will now happen in 2021.

What have we learnt?

As part of our learnings from this project, we are proud to have developed the world's first ever Forest-Friendly criteria which has generated significant interest from the cocoa sector and is something we hope can be replicated by more producer organisations. Furthermore the first Living Income benchmark for Sierra Leone was undertaken and disseminated to the Living Income Community of Practice. The learnings from this study have highlighted the importance and value of women's contribution to data collection, both to ensure their participation and because of the quality and accuracy of their input.

We have also built upon and reinforced our learnings about the importance of the connection between Fairtrade and environmental justice, and considering environmental, social and economic sustainability hand in hand.

What's next?

In 2021, we will celebrate the launch of two Divine Limited Edition bars using Forest-Friendly cocoa on the Dutch market. We will continue to disseminate Forest-Friendly messaging to farmers and others within the cocoa sector. Our focus on the long-term sustainability of NGOCFU will include business and governance training, training on social norms and gender roles, and supporting the development of a gender policy and action plan.

Our impact:

75%

NGOCFU members have adopted improved practices to increase productivity, quality and/or to improve the environment

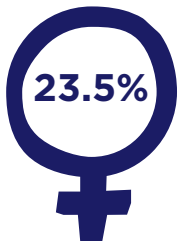


90%

of members (1,569) have received at least one training session on sustainable production, environmental and social sustainability

2807

participants total



(661 women)



Did you know?

The Gola Rainforest is the largest remnant of Tropical Rainforest in Sierra Leone. It is an internationally recognised global biodiversity hotspot and is home to endangered species like the Pygmy Hippo and the critically endangered Western Chimpanzee.



Kasinthula Cane Growers' Association



Kasinthula Cane Growers' Association (or KCGA) is a Fairtrade certified sugar cane farmer association based in southern Malawi. KCGA has supplied Fairtrade sugar for Divine's chocolate for over a decade. Sourcing Fairtrade sugar is unfortunately quite unusual for chocolate companies, so the relationship with Kasinthula is something Divine is very proud about.

In recent years, land and crops in Malawi have suffered from a devastating cycle of flooding, drought and crippling debt. Because of that, we have shifted our focus from sustainable agriculture and gender justice to supporting Kasinthula to navigate internal and external shocks such as climate change.

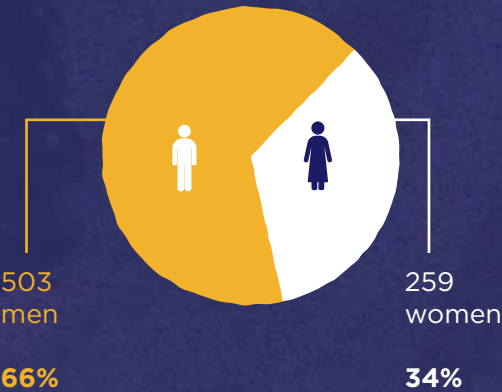
We are now focused on building household and organisational resilience by supporting income diversification and building the organisational strength of a Women's Action Group (WAG).

"Divine is now a household name with Kasinthula members and the surrounding communities. We thank you Divine for your support which has really transformed the livelihoods of our members and the surrounding communities"

Charles Chavi, Manager at Kasinthula

Members:

762



Districts/associations:

1 farmer association

Certification:



Fairtrade



What have we done?

Kasinthula has made significant steps to emerge from the challenges it faced in 2018-19 as a result of a devastating cycle of flooding, drought and debt. Even with the challenges of COVID-19, Kasinthula is in a much better place than it was last year.

A tree nursery has been established and a woodlot has been planted to minimise deforestation, as well as making use of ground that is not currently used for food crop or sugar production.

The ongoing women's empowerment project is benefiting 250 women as part of the Women's Action Group (WAG). A new maize mill has been constructed to generate income for the WAG and the profits will be used to meet basic needs and support vulnerable community members. Alongside this, WAG members are receiving ongoing finance and business training to be able to run the mill.

To further support income diversification, Kasinthula used their PS&D funds to set up a small production unit of 10 bee hives, with the aim to produce and sell honey via roadside sales.

Training will be provided to ensure all Kasinthula farmers have the opportunity to understand how to keep bees and maximise honey production, in the hope that they will purchase their own hives and benefit from the additional income.

What have we learnt?

We have learnt about some of the less often considered or obvious impacts of a project, for example as well as the maize mill generating income for the Women's Action Group, it is also expected to be saving women about 5 hours per week in unpaid labour (based on initial estimates). It saves them walking around 6 miles to other mills, and also they are able to mill sufficient maize for a week or two, rather than grinding it daily by hand.

What's next?

Three project streams will be developed in 2021 - support for youth skills development, emergency relief to help rebuild a primary school damaged by Cyclone Idai, and continuation of income generation activities supported by business training for the Women's Action Group.

Did you know?

Because there is no Fairtrade minimum price for sugar, certified sugar growers receive only the Fairtrade premium on top of the world market price. This means additional income generation is important to create resilient livelihoods and Divine has always supported these projects.

Our impact:

30,700 kg

maize milled since the mill opened, generating MWK 323,358 / GBP 303 income for Women's Action Group in the first three months

250

members of the Women's Action Group

4,000

seedlings prepared to plant next year to meet the annual target of 3,000 trees a year.



3 ha

of trees planted including over 2,000 trees and 465 tree species.



10

bee hives established

Proud of our impact



Proud to be a B Corp

While Divine's mission is focused on empowering farmers and consumers, we are also deeply committed to our responsibility as a company to do business differently – ensuring we are constantly improving our labour standards and reducing our impact on the environment. Our BCorp certification is important validation for how we operate and improve our business in five

main areas – Governance, Community, Workers, Customers and Environment. We are really pleased to have undertaken our re-certification in 2019 and to have improved our BCorp Score from 102 to 127. This places Divine as the highest rated food BCorp in the UK in 2020. We will be re-certifying again in 2021 in accordance with our change in majority ownership.



A lasting legacy

Sophi Tranchell MBE, the first MD of Divine Chocolate and its CEO for the last 21 years, left the company in May 2020.

Throughout her leadership of Divine, Sophi has been a champion of Fairtrade, of business as a force for good and of women achieving equality – particularly in the chocolate supply chain. She has demonstrated time and time again that things no-one thought possible can be done – starting with propelling a chocolate company into a model that turned 'business-as-usual' on its head by making farmers co-owners, and shareholders of the business.

Sophi has left a legacy of championing farmers and the team continues to live and breathe this mission as they look to grow the organisation and deliver more benefits to more farmers.

Raising smiles during challenging times

To show our support to the incredible NHS staff working on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic in the UK, we delivered over 1000 Easter eggs to Lewisham Hospital, South East London.

In the US, Divine donated around 1,500 lbs of chocolates to struggling bakeries, restaurants, food banks, hospitals and independent grocery stores. Divine Chocolate USA also donated a percentage of every Milk Chocolate Advent Calendar sold at Whole Foods Market to the Whole Planet Foundation, a nonprofit microcredit organisation. This totalled up to a sum of \$1,745.



Awards

Every new award or accolade is a huge boost for the Divine team. It affirms that we are fulfilling our mission to improve the lives of farmers and their families and that together we are creating a fair and sustainable world. In 2020, we were proud to be named the International Fairtrade Award for Fairtrader of the Year and to be awarded the Blue Patch Award for Global Impact



Reducing our environmental footprint

We are committed to preserving the environment and to doing all we can to make improvements to reduce our impact on the planet.

We work with our supply chain to reduce road and sea miles and we never use air freight or take internal flights.

In the UK, we moved offices to Sustainable Workspace in 2020, a co-working office for purpose-led organisations in South London. The building is made from as much reclaimed and environmentally friendly materials as possible, the majority of furniture is second hand and the building uses 100% renewable energy.

Packaging is one of the big areas we are looking at to make further improvements. We have already made great progress on our Easter Egg boxes, which are now 100% plastic free. We removed the plastic tamper seal and there is no plastic inner holding the egg in place - this is now an FSC certified cardboard structure. The egg boxes have been cleverly engineered into a snug triangular shape, which means one less side of cardboard compared to a regular box shape!

We are working to develop a sustainability packaging strategy for all our ranges and will communicate this in late 2021.



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