

Template for DISCO action plans

Subsectors 'Retailers' and 'Smaller Manufacturers'

Instructions

To gather more quantitative insights in what individual signatories are contributing to the DISCO goals in the upcoming years and how the partnership is progressing jointly, the Steering Committee agreed that all signatories will develop and publish individual action plans. These action plans show how they are contributing to the DISCO goals in the upcoming 3 years (until end 2026), and:

- are based on the commitments from the [DISCO declaration](#);
- have a strong link with the indicators from the ISCO Reporting Framework;
- explain how the principles on procurement practices as laid down in the DISCO procurement practices position paper, are being implemented by DISCO signatories.

You are asked to fill below template and submit it by **30 June 2024 the latest** to the DISCO Secretariat: Mark de Waard, dewaard@idhtrade.org and Lisa Graepel, graepel@idhtrade.org.

After submission and review by the DISCO Secretariat, all DISCO action plans will be published on the DISCO website. The DISCO Secretariat will analyse and summarise the action plans. The outcomes of this analysis will be shared and discussed during the annual General Assembly at the end of 2024.

For more guidance on defining the actions around the three impact themes, it is recommended to consult the DISCO Roadmaps on [living income](#), [deforestation and forest degradation](#), and [child labour](#). For more information on the quantitative targets, the definitions and usage of the indicators, please consult the [ISCO Reporting Framework](#).

All action plans will cover the period 2024-2026. The quantitative targets track progress cumulatively until the end of 2026, including what's already been achieved. Progressive targets with intermediate milestones could also be included. It is also requested to give a brief qualitative description. Where needed, references to a more comprehensive description of the strategy could be included.

General information

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Plans on DISCO ambitions to enable living incomes

Living income gap measurement

Describe in max. 200 words what your organizations' plans are to measure income gaps throughout your supply chain, and describe the methodology, including which living income benchmark will be used for measurement of the income gaps¹.

¹ Recommended methodology: [LICOP's Guidance Manual on Calculating and Visualizing the income gap to a Living Income Benchmark](#)

All cocoa used for delicata chocolate has been sourced via the Open Chain since 2018 (all except 4 SKUs, for which the cocoa is not sourced from Côte d'Ivoire or Ghana). The Open Chain requires the living income gap of all participating farmers to be measured.

We will expand the cocoa sourced from the Open Chain to all Albert Heijn own brand products containing cocoa. The aim is to realize this in 3 phases.

2025 – Phase 1: Part of the non-delicata Albert Heijn own brand chocolate assortment containing will be sourced via the Open Chain.

2026 – Phase 2: All remaining SKUs from the category “chocolate” will be sourced from the Open Chain.

2027 – Phase 3: All other SKUs containing cocoa, from categories such as breakfast, cookies, ice cream, bakery, etc. will be sourced from the Open Chain.

In total around 650 Albert Heijn own brand products contain cocoa. For all of these products, the cocoa will be sourced via the Open Chain.

NOTE: all below figures are estimates based on assortment configuration. Below figures give no guarantee for future volumes, these can fluctuate higher or lower, and are dependent on consumer demand.

Substantiate this by setting a quantitative target on the following indicator:

Total volumes in MT-BE² and % sourced for which a living income gap is measured:

By the end of 2024	1700 MT-BE	31% of total
By the end of 2025	2450 MT-BE	45% of total
By the end of 2026	5400 MT-BE	100% of total

Living income strategy implementation

Describe in max. 300 words what your organizations' plans are:

- to implement living income strategies (according to the ISCO definition³) throughout your supply chain;
- what that strategy entails and how the multiple income drivers around land size, yield, price, cost of production and diversified incomes are addressed;
- the expected impact around living income gap closure for households (households that closed the gap and those moving towards closing the gap).

² Metric Ton Bean Equivalent. Methodology to calculate MT-BE in [ISCO Reporting Framework](#), p. 39

³ See [ISCO Reporting Framework](#), p. 38

All cocoa used for delicata chocolate has been sourced via the Open Chain since 2018 (all except 4 SKUs, for which the cocoa is not sourced from Côte d'Ivoire or Ghana).

While the Open Chain does not require the living income gap of all participating farmers to be completely closed, we feel that it is currently the best mechanism available in the market at scale to reduce this gap significantly over time. The key principle is to work toward closing the living income gap, but achieving this is a long-term goal that depends on multiple factors, including market conditions, farm productivity, and collaboration with other stakeholders. The nexus between closing the gap, and ensuring all environmental-related requirements are met, is a challenge.

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Total volumes in MT-BE and % sourced for which a living income strategy is implemented:

By the end of 2024	1700 MT-BE	31% of total
By the end of 2025	2450 MT-BE	45% of total
By the end of 2026	5400 MT-BE	100% of total

Procurement practices

Describe in max. 200 words what your organizations' plans are to change procurement practices, based on the three agreed principles in the DISCO Procurement Practices Position Paper⁴ (please comment on each principle):

- Farmers are adequately remunerated so that sustainable cocoa farming can be profitable and enable them to earn a living income.
- Farmers and farmer groups are reliably and promptly paid for the cocoa beans supplied.
- Farmers and farmer groups have assurances from their off-takers in the form of longer term agreements for the supply of sustainable cocoa in the years to come.

⁴ <ADD LINK TO POSITION PAPER>

All cocoa used for delicata chocolate has been sourced via the Open Chain since 2018 (all except 4 SKUs, for which the cocoa is not sourced from Côte d'Ivoire or Ghana). All participating farmers of the Open Chain have a 5 year contract with the Open Chain. This long-term commitment is a crucial part of the Open Chain's strategy to create a more stable and equitable cocoa supply chain.

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Substantiate this by setting a quantitative target on the following indicator:

Total volumes in MT-BE and % sourced for which the procurement practices are adapted in line with the principles from the DISCO Procurement Practices Position Paper:

By the end of 2024	1700 MT-BE	31% of total
By the end of 2025	2450 MT-BE	45% of total
By the end of 2026	5400 MT-BE	100% of total

Plans on DISCO ambitions to end deforestation and forest degradation

Traceability

Describe in max. 200 words what your organizations' plans are to source traceable up to the farm level.

All cocoa used for Delicata chocolate has been sourced via the Open Chain since 2018 (all except 4 SKUs, for which the cocoa is not sourced from Côte d'Ivoire or Ghana). The Open Chain has both a strict No Deforestation Policy and farmers comply with the EUDR requirements. In addition, the Open Chain has restrictions on land conversion, where farmers participating in the chain are required to avoid converting forested land into agricultural land, ensuring that their farming practices do not contribute to the destruction of ecosystems.

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NOTE I: all below figures are estimates based on assortment configuration. Below figures give no guarantee for future volumes, these can fluctuate higher or lower, and are dependent on consumer demand.

NOTE II: Albert Heijn has worked together with Tony’s Open Chain to create a mass balance solution, in which identity preserved cocoa enters the Dutch port, and transitions into a mass balance model. This could impact how the below information is interpreted. The farmers, including polygon maps, are known for all Open Chain participating farmers. Albert Heijn chose to take this step to be able to scale its use of Open Chain cocoa over all own brand products containing cocoa.

Substantiate this by setting a quantitative target on the following indicator:

Volumes in MT-BE and % sourced per traceability level by the end of 2024.

Origin known	1700	31% of total
Country known	1700	31% of total
Cooperative known	1700	31% of total
Farm known and having at least one coordination per farm (farm mapping) / Farm known, having point coordinates and /or polygons for plots less than 4ha and polygon boundaries of the plots bigger than 4ha.	1700	31% of total

Volumes in MT-BE and % sourced per traceability level by the end of 2025.

Origin known	2450 MT-BE	45% of total
Country known	2450 MT-BE	45% of total
Cooperative known	2450 MT-BE	45% of total
Farm known and having at least one coordination per farm (farm mapping) / Farm known, having point coordinates and /or polygons for plots less than 4ha and polygon boundaries of the plots bigger than 4ha.	2450 MT-BE	45% of total

Volumes in MT-BE and % sourced per traceability level by the end of 2026.

Origin known	5400 MT-BE	100% of total
Country known	5400 MT-BE	100% of total
Cooperative known	5400 MT-BE	100% of total
Farm known and having at least one coordination per farm (farm mapping) / Farm known, having point coordinates and /or polygons for plots less than 4ha and polygon boundaries of the plots bigger than 4ha.	5400 MT-BE	100% of total

Signing national initiatives aiming to end cocoa related deforestation in sourcing countries

Describe in max. 200 words what your organizations' plans are to source from suppliers that have signed and adhered to the national initiatives aiming to end cocoa related deforestation (e.g. Cocoa & Forests Initiative) in the countries you source from.

We have no plans to require our suppliers to take part in these initiatives. We cover these commitments by sourcing Open Chain cocoa.

Substantiate this by setting a quantitative target on the following indicator:

Volumes in MT-BE and % sourced from a supplier that signed all national initiatives aiming to end cocoa related deforestation that the supplier sources from.

By the end of 2024	<...> MT-BE sourced	<...> % in supply chain
By the end of 2025	<...> MT-BE sourced	<...> % in supply chain
By the end of 2026	<...> MT-BE sourced	<...> % in supply chain

Deforestation-free sourcing

Describe in max. 200 words what your organizations' plans are to source deforestation-free⁵.

⁵ See [ISCO Reporting Framework](#), p. 27

All cocoa used for Delicata chocolate has been sourced via the Open Chain since 2018 (all except 4 SKUs, for which the cocoa is not sourced from Côte d'Ivoire or Ghana). The Open Chain has both a strict No Deforestation Policy and farmers comply with the EUDR requirements. In addition, the Open Chain has restrictions on land conversion, where farmers participating in the chain are required to avoid converting forested land into agricultural land, ensuring that their farming practices do not contribute to the destruction of ecosystems.

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NOTE II: Albert Heijn has worked together with Tony’s Open Chain to create a mass balance solution, in which identity preserved cocoa enters the Dutch port, and transitions into a mass balance model. This could impact how the below information is interpreted. The farmers, including polygon maps, are known for all Open Chain participating farmers. Albert Heijn chose to take this step to be able to scale its use of Open Chain cocoa over all own brand products containing cocoa.

Substantiate this by setting a quantitative target on the following indicator:

Volumes in MT-BE and % sourced that can be claimed as deforestation-free differentiated per cut-off date (please indicate the latest date).

By the end of 2024		TBD based on possible delay EUDR
By the end of 2025		100% all cocoa used (PL & A-brand)
By the end of 2026		100% all cocoa used (PL & A-brand)

Plans on DISCO ambitions to end child labour

Child labour Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) or equivalent system roll out

Describe in max. 200 words what your organizations’ plans are to roll out Child labour Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) or equivalent system throughout your supply chain.

All cocoa used for delicata chocolate has been sourced via the Open Chain since 2018 (all except 4 SKUs, for which the cocoa is not sourced from Côte d'Ivoire or Ghana). The Open Chain ensures that CLMRS is implemented at all participating Cooperatives.

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NOTE I: all below figures are estimates based on assortment configuration. Below figures give no guarantee for future volumes, these can fluctuate higher or lower, and are dependent on consumer demand.

Substantiate this by setting a quantitative target on the following indicator:

Total volumes in MT-BE and % sourced that are covered by a Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) or equivalent system:

By the end of 2024	1700 MT-BE	31% of total
By the end of 2025	2450 MT-BE	45% of total
By the end of 2026	5400 MT-BE	100% of total