

Template for DISCO action plans

Subsectors 'Certification organization', 'Civil society', 'Service providers & knowledge institutes', and 'Government'

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, 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

The Rainforest Alliance
Name contact person: Kerry Daroci
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Plans on DISCO ambitions to enable living incomes

Contribution to closing living income gaps

Describe in max. 200 words what your organizations' plans are to contribute to the partnership's goals on closing living income gaps.

As standard setters and founding members of the Living Income Community of Practice, we actively support the development of instruments for companies to act on closing living income gaps in their supply chains in a measurable way. With this in mind, we will build on our existing Monitoring Tool, which enables companies to assess the impact of their activities on farmer incomes and the closure of gaps in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, to develop a simple, farmer-led tool to better understand producers' needs.

The Rainforest Alliance has implemented a minimum Sustainability Differential, which is a monetary payment to certified producers of at least 70 USD per MT*. This payment is one component of the work of supply chain actors to close living income gaps.

On an ongoing basis, we raise awareness of the concept and importance of payment of a living income to farmers and, to this end, encourage companies to share the responsibility of more sustainable production costs through the Sustainability Investment.

Additionally, we work with other actors to implement programs to address living income like the Income Accelerator Programs with Hershey and Nestle. These programs provide cash incentives to farming households that meet certain goals around different topics like GAP and no child labor.

*This minimum is implemented globally, except in Côte d'Ivoire where it is mandated at a minimum of 35CFA/kg.

Substantiate this by setting a quantitative target on (one of) the following indicators:

- *Total # of publications (evaluations, analyses, studies, etc.) on effective approaches for living income gap closure in supply chains by the end of 2026*
- *Total # of partnerships/coalitions actively involved in around living income in cocoa producing countries by the end of 2026*
- *Total # of supply chain partners supported (technically, financially, or through pilots) in the implementation of living income strategies by the end of 2026*
- *Total # of policies around living income influenced by the end of 2026*

- **2 income benchmarking studies** in major cocoa geographies
- Participation in **2 partnerships/coalitions** in cocoa producing countries (ALICO and Working Group 8 on Living Income led by CCC and GISCO in Côte d'Ivoire)
- **5 supply chain partners supported** in implementation of living income strategies
- **1 policy influenced** at EU level: CSDDD (inclusion of **living income** in the list of human rights to be included in companies' due diligence, obligation to address unsustainable purchasing practices, meaningful stakeholder engagement, and responsible disengagement of companies as last resort)

Plans on DISCO ambitions to end deforestation and forest degradation

Contribution to end deforestation and forest degradation

Describe in max. 200 words what your organizations' plans are to contribute to the partnership's goals on ending deforestation and forest degradation.

The Rainforest Alliance (RA) actively contributes to preventing deforestation and forest degradation and supports ecosystem restoration through its standard criteria, audits, on-site guidance, consumer awareness, as well as through other targeted activities with companies and producers.

The certification program prohibits deforestation and conversion of natural ecosystems after January 1, 2014. The RA2020 Sustainable Agriculture Standard also requires farmers to increase native tree cover on existing farms and in agroforestry systems or conservation lands to ensure that farming not only has a minimal negative impact, but that it also generates positive impacts on biodiversity, climate, and the long-term sustainability of the landscape.

Through certification, we have also developed services to support producers in aligning with EUDR data collection and to support companies in their EUDR compliance. We provide a system for producer alignment with certain EUDR requirements, geodata quality checks, and third-party assurance of the EUDR-aligned data.

Certification is just one of our tools embedded within a holistic approach to create deforestation-free supply chains. An additional tool is landscape level program development and implementation where we work with cocoa producers and their communities to develop systems for avoiding deforestation and providing forest restoration.

Substantiate this by setting a quantitative target on (one of) the following indicators:

- *Total # of publications (evaluations, analyses, studies, etc.) on effective approaches for forest protection in supply chains by the end of 2026*
- *Total # of partnerships/coalitions actively involved in around forest protection in cocoa producing countries by the end of 2026*
- *Total # of supply chain partners supported (technically, financially, or through pilots) in the implementation of forest protection strategies by the end of 2026*
- *Total # of policies around forest protection influenced by the end of 2026*

8 partnerships/coalitions established around forest protection (RESTORE in Ghana/CDI, Nestle IAP in CDI/Ghana, HIAP in CDI, COBALAM in Cameroon, Business Case in LATAM, Cocoa and Forests Initiative in CDI/Ghana, Cocoa Forest & Peace Initiative in Colombia)
1,200 RA Certificate Holders opted-in to RA EUDR offering

Plans on DISCO ambitions to end child labour

Contribution to end child labour

Describe in max. 200 words what your organizations' plans are to contribute to the partnership's goals on ending child labour.

The Rainforest Alliance as a standard setter actively contributes to preventing and addressing child labor through its standard requirements, audits, projects and on-site consultations. Under Rainforest Alliance certification, all certified producer groups must have an integrated management system (IMS) in place, address gender issues, establish a grievance mechanism and implement an Assess & Address system based on the UNGPs, all of which contribute to tackling the issue of child labor. Additionally, RA will continue to support certified groups on the implementation of Assess & Address and strengthen assurance. We continue to raise awareness about the risks and root causes of child labor – and the ways we can tackle this collaboratively with farmers, companies, governments, and consumers – through our website and social media channels, as well as national- and community-level outreach in the countries where we work. We also continue to advocate for EU and member states to ensure supply chain actors fulfil their responsibilities through the recently adopted due diligence legislation and that adequate resources reach local communities.

Additionally, we work with other stakeholders to develop and implement landscape level programs where we work with cocoa producers, including youth and women, their communities, governments and other relevant stakeholders to assess the risks of child labor in a given landscape and address the root causes.

Substantiate this by setting a quantitative target on (one of) the following indicators:

- *Total # of publications (evaluations, analyses, studies, etc.) on effective approaches for ending child labour in supply chains by the end of 2026*
- *Total # of partnerships/coalitions actively involved in around ending child labour in cocoa producing countries by the end of 2026*
- *Total # of supply chain partners supported (technically, financially, or through pilots) in the implementation of ending child labour strategies by the end of 2026*
- *Total # of policies around child labour influenced by the end of 2026*

2 partnerships/coalitions established/participated in in cocoa producing countries (NORAD in Ghana, RVO in CDI)

Publication of 1 HRDD course and toolkit to address child labor and forced labor, see <https://www.rainforest-alliance.org/in-the-field/new-hrdd-e-course-and-toolkit/>
Sector and country based risk maps for child labor and forced labor

5 supply chain partners supported in implementation of strategies to end child labor