



FROM BEAN TO GLOBAL MARKETS: ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE COCOA IN ANGOLA, COTE D'IVOIRE AND GHANA

Prepared by:

**BOBE ENGUELEGUELE.
STEPHANE J.-L**



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



2024 SOVEREIGNPIALPHA FRANCE Ltd. RCS Paris 948431838 36, rue Scheffer 75016 Paris
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report analyses the cocoa production challenges and strategic dynamics in Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ghana, three major global players. The report examines how each country's unique historical, economic, and geographical context influences its role and capabilities in cocoa production, identifies the significant obstacles each country faces, and provides strategic recommendations for sustainable growth and compliance with international standards, particularly those related to environmental conservation and social responsibility. The report observes that Angola, with its diverse natural resources and recent history of rebuilding and development, has the potential for growth in cocoa production. Despite being a minor player compared to its counterparts, Angola's evolving agricultural sector could benefit significantly from targeted investments and technology transfers. On the other hand, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana dominate the global cocoa market. Still, they must contend with challenges such as political instability, environmental degradation due to deforestation, and social issues, including labour practices. The report highlights that both countries have established robust cocoa industries that are integral to their economies but require further adaptation to meet evolving environmental and ethical standards.

The report provides strategic insights based on the following observations:

- Economic Volatility and Growth: Angola's economy displays significant volatility and is influenced heavily by oil prices. Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana show more stable growth patterns underpinned by agricultural exports and diversified economic activities. Economic diversification is crucial for reducing dependency on single commodities and stabilising growth.
- Sustainability Challenges: Deforestation, soil degradation, and the impact of climate change are significant concerns. Sustainable practices and technologies are essential to mitigate these effects and ensure the long-term viability of the cocoa industry in these regions.
- Social and Economic Equity: Issues such as child labour and inadequate farmer incomes highlight the need for improved governance and more robust regulatory frameworks to protect vulnerable groups and ensure fair economic returns for all stakeholders in the cocoa production chain.

The report recommends the following strategies:

- Enhance Governance and Regulatory Frameworks: Strengthen laws and regulations to support sustainable agriculture, protect labour rights, and ensure equitable growth within the cocoa sector.
- Invest in Sustainable and Resilient Agricultural Practices: Promote the adoption of technologies that reduce environmental impact and improve resilience to climate variability.

Support Farmer Education and Cooperative Development: Improve farmers' access to education and market information and support the development of farmer cooperatives to enhance bargaining power and market access.

- **Foster International and Regional Partnerships:** Enhance collaboration with international bodies and neighbouring countries to align standards, share best practices, and attract sustainable investments.

The report concludes that the future of the cocoa sector in Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ghana depends on their ability to adapt to international standards and embrace sustainable and equitable practices. By implementing the above strategies, these countries can improve their competitiveness in the global market, ensure the sustainability of their cocoa sectors, and contribute positively to their populations' economic and social well-being.