

CABOZ Action Past News 2022 – English

November

In November, about 30 CABOZ Action and SCOPACI staff members were trained by specialists from Rainforest Alliance on the basics of child labour prevention and the organisation’s “assess and address” approach. It is based on risk assessment, prevention and constructive problem solving through cooperative-based committees. Accordingly, three committees each will be established in Soubré and Duekoué, over the coming months: (1) Risk Assessment and Mitigation Committee, 2) Gender Issues Committee, 3) Grievance Committee. For the associated baseline study, the trained facilitators have already interviewed 1/3 of the approximately 1600 producers of SCOPACI, using a jointly developed questionnaire for risk assessment at household level.



October

Following a request from the residents of Marcelinkro, we installed two 6000-L rainwater-collection tanks by the school, and solar panels on the roof to power the pump and UV-lamp kindly donated by Aqua Pura together with their Waterflow microfilter system. With the support of Fulbert, our project manager in the region, the villagers set up a water committee, which helped install the water system and is responsible for maintaining it. The committee also collect the small fees families pay to use the water to cover the cost of repairs. The children and teachers at the school, which the villagers built themselves, now have access to clean drinking water.



September

We are delighted that Nathalie Windlin and Jey Wegner are happy to be nominated to join the committee and are already helping with CABOZ Action projects. Elections for the committee will, however, not take place until the AGM, which will probably be in May 2023.

Nathalie Windlin

resident in Zurich

Nathalie Windlin is an agronomist and works at Bio Suisse on the further development of the guidelines for tropical crops.

J Wegner

Resident in Berlin

J Wegner is a freelance social impact and Media Viability consultant & researcher – Passionate about reimagining the development space.



July

Start of the Rainforest Alliance project with village savings and loan groups (AVEC), income-generating activities (AGR) and a new programme for reducing the risk of child labour. 8 new facilitators including 2 women have now been selected and trained. We are grateful to the Rainforest Alliance and CABOZ AG for their support.

June

Visitors to our stand at the Festival of Nations on 12 June in Nussbaumen enjoyed tasting CABOZ cocoa juice made from fresh cocoa pulp. We also sold some Ivorian soap women from Western Côte d'Ivoire made from burnt coffee and cocoa husks. Producing the soap could be a new income generating activity for AVEC (savings and loan groups) participants.



May

Our 10th annual general meeting took place in Baden on 28 May 2022. Kathrin Heitz Tokpa, who is president of CABOZ Action Côte d'Ivoire and who lives in Abidjan, gave an inspiring talk on our savings and loans groups (AVEC) project, and the income generating activities they have enabled participants to start.

Looking back, we are confident CABOZ Action has had a positive impact in the cocoa villages over the past 10 years. Examples are:

- The drinking-water systems we have installed in five villages. Local committees are now in charge of their maintenance, but can call on our two project officers for support if necessary.
- The income-diversification project has trained over 500 young people in the cocoa villages to set up very small, local businesses. This has led to some exciting new ventures, ranging from selling second-hand clothes to food stands and grinding cassava.



We celebrated these achievements with some delicious Ivorian food and cocoa juice made from fresh CABOZ cocoa. Now we can look forward to continuing our work with the support of CABOZ and the Rainforest Alliance, and to building up the local association of CABOZ Action in Côte d'Ivoire.



Photo (from l to r): Kathrin Heitz-Tokpa, Joel Diet Bohon, Silvia Dingwall and Marie-Louise Nussbaumer.

April

The Swiss ambassador Anne Lugon-Moulin (L in photo) visited our AVEC savings groups in Cabozkro near Soubré, and learned about some of the very small businesses the group had set up, such as grinding cassava.

**February**

Pump (nearly 50 m deep) for drinking-water installed in Diégokro. CABOZ Action Côte d'Ivoire, Kathrin Heitz Tokpa, (President CA CI) visits this and 2 other villages in Duékoué with Lydie, who is responsible for our activities in the region. Kathrin was impressed by the dynamism of the village loan and savings groups.

