



CDCTL
COCOA DEVELOPMENT COMPANY
OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO LIMITED

*Championing the success
of the fine/ flavour cocoa industry in
Trinidad and Tobago,
contributing towards economic diversification*





CDCTTL

Company Background

The Cocoa Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (CDCTTL) is a special purpose state company registered according to the Companies Act, Chap 81:01 of the Laws of Trinidad and Tobago, to provide support for the development of the local cocoa industry. The line Ministry which the CDCTTL falls under is the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries. Our goal is to make cocoa production in Trinidad and Tobago a financially viable activity, contributing to economic diversification of the cocoa value chain.



Vision

The CDCTTL sees itself as the pre-eminent driver and catalyst for transformation of the sector: the hub of all things related to cocoa. To this end, the CDCTTL vision is to become:

“...the premier institution promoting and coordinating the development of the fine/flavour cocoa industry of Trinidad and Tobago.”

Mission

The CDCTTL's raison d'être is to empower stakeholders by leading and facilitating the sustainable development of the fine or flavour cocoa sector in an efficient, innovative, and transparent manner to increase production, whilst ensuring adherence to international standards of quality, leading to improved value and a globally recognised brand.

Role of the CDCTTL

The CDCTTL is the national governing body for the local cocoa industry and is the country's representative at the International Cocoa Organisation (ICCO). The Company has several ongoing projects which reflect an overarching goal of sustainable increase of growth within the industry.

Working with Farmers: Through our Cocoa Development Officers, the CDCTTL has ongoing Farmers Field Schools trainings where cocoa farmers are reacquainted with methodologies of good agricultural practice and are exposed to new techniques.

In collaboration with the MALF and Regional Corporations, the CDCTTL recently initiated the Transport and Distribution of Planting Material Programme, where cocoa planting material is transported from the La Reunion Estate in Centeno, to collection points closest to the farmers.



Working towards increased Value-Added Production: The Cocoa Community Value Added Skills Training Programme was launched in Rio Claro, in 2018, with a focus on the creation of chocolates, soaps and creams.

Quality: The CDCTTL works on raising the level of post harvest quality through training farmers on proper fermentation and drying techniques. The Company recently partnered with the Rio Claro Demonstration to erect a model solar drying house.

Certificate of Origin: The CDCTTL is currently the only body that can administer Certificates of Origin for Cocoa Exports. This certificate is required for the traceability of cocoa beans and value-added export products.



School Sensitizations and Trainings: By partnering with the local 4H Clubs, the CDCTTL has conducted several hands on cocoa beverage training sessions with children of primary schools. The Company has also visited secondary schools within Cocoa Communities to present to students on Cocoa Careers and the country's fine/flavour cocoa heritage.



Information Hub: The CDCTTL acts as an information hub for persons within the value chain, connecting producers and buyers, as well as those who are interested in entering the industry. The company is in the process of developing a fine/flavour cocoa registry. The CDCTTL provides information on establishing new estates and the rehabilitation of older farms.

The National Cocoa Awards and the Cocoa of Excellence: The Company facilitates the country's participation at the Cocoa of Excellence and will be hosting T&T's first National Cocoa Awards in 2018.

Conclusion

Users of fine/flavour cocoa can feel confident that Trinidad and Tobago is committed to remaining a reliable and consistent supplier of its unique, high quality cocoa beans as a result of exciting new initiatives being undertaken to increase production and maintain superior quality.

A History of the Trinitario Cocoa in T&T

Trinidad and Tobago's Fine or Flavour Cocoa has earned a position worldwide as a premium high quality product. Our cocoa should be treated in an analogous way to that of champagne: low volumes, high quality, high price, high profit and having a growing global demand. The country's reputation for this premium crop has been cemented through its success at the International Cocoa Awards and the premium price it fetches on the market.



Source: Bekele, Frances L. The History of Cocoa Production in Trinidad and Tobago. In Revitalising of the Trinidad and Tobago Cocoa Industry Proceedings of the APASATT Seminar and Exhibition. 20th September 2003.

**Let's discuss your interest
in the cocoa industry!**



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