

# Building the cocoa farms of the future

Barry Callebaut attended the United Nations Climate Action Summit in New York, as more action is needed to limit climate change. Why does climate change matter to a chocolate company? The answer is simple. If there is no forest and no biodiversity, there is no rain, and if there is no rain, there is no cocoa. If cocoa farmers cannot make a living because they are stuck with very low productivity, they will encroach into the forest.

We therefore joined the “One Planet Business for Biodiversity” (OP2B) coalition, an action-oriented coalition of companies with a specific focus on agriculture, determined to catalyze bold action to protect and restore cultivated and natural biodiversity within their value chains. In addition, we also signed the vision statement for the “Just Rural Transition” initiative. This multistakeholder platform is committed to transform by 2030 the way in which food is produced and consumed, and land and natural resources are used.

In support of the two initiatives we announced that Katchilè, our cocoa farm database, already contains insights into close to 300,000 smallholder cocoa farms located in the world’s leading cocoa-producing countries. By collecting and analyzing detailed data

on cocoa farms, we can support and advise cocoa farmers at individual farm level on how to improve the output of their cocoa farms via Farm Business Plans. Furthermore, understanding where farms are located allows us to assess if a farm is at risk of sourcing from a protected forest area. Through Farm Business Plans, as well as through our data insights into individual cocoa farms, we are in a pole position to help smallholder cocoa farmers in building the cocoa farms of the future.

Pablo Perversi: “The datasets on cocoa farmers we have collected are unprecedented. They will allow us to assess the needs of the individual cocoa farms in our supply chain in order to build a cocoa farming model of the future, through which we will lift over 500,000 cocoa farmers out of poverty, protect biodiversity and guarantee the best quality cocoa beans.”

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**“Our datasets are unprecedented.”**

Pablo Perversi, Chief Innovation, Sustainability & Quality Officer

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