Financing cocoa agroforestry: mitigating risks in Côte d’Ivoire
When opportunities outweigh risks in Côte d’Ivoire

Trends in production and processing of raw cashew nuts in Côte d’Ivoire
(Source: www.nkalo.com – In ‘000 Metric tons of raw cashew nuts)
In agroforestry, there is… forestry

Agroforestry investments will not evade forestry regulations.

In theory, the 2014 and 2019 forestry codes put an end to Logging Perimeters. But in practice, the system still exists, with no legal basis.

While a transitional decree is being developed, it would be essential for the cocoa/agroforestry sector to be fully aware of all the practical consequences of this decree and to much more involved in its development.
The conditions for the sale of timber by farmers are not defined yet either:

- Even if those farmers officially own the land & trees.
- And although the sale of timber can represent a considerable income for them and the most significant opportunity to diversify their livelihood (by far!).

Again, the cocoa/agroforestry sector should take more interest in this issue and not leave it up to foresters alone.
Land certification is key (and it is cheap!)

Who would invest in planting trees on unregistered land (in anticipation of unknown earnings)?

Based on our last note (see opposite), investors from the cocoa/timber sectors are (strongly) advised to include the issuance of land certificates in their investment models.

Delivering land certificates can be very cost-effective (22 €/ha) when collective operations can be carried out at the level of a single community or cooperative.

Land certification is key
(and has the power to reconcile cocoa & trees)

Agroforestry model developed by the Mé REDD+ Project (Nitidæ / SEP-REDD+) with the respective stakeholders’ commitments:

Timber industry (Inprobois 1st): plantation management (from A to Z) and setting of a minimum purchase price

Farmers: none, except selling the timber to the company that invested in their lands

Mé REDD+ Project: funding the issuance of land certificates (=> to be covered now by the cocoa sector? Cf Hershey’s 1st move on this)

This model, among others, has been documented by the 1 for 20 partnership (EFI-UNEP)