GHANA COCOA CONNECT CONFERENCE PROGRAM OUTLINE - 5th to 7th June, 2025

5th June - Main Conference Day

10:00 - Welcome Guests - MC - Emmanuel Darko-Ampem

- Chairman: Daasebre Kwebu Ewusi VII Paramount Chief of Abeadze Traditional Area
- 10:30 Welcome Address AfroEuro: Vincent Gambrah
- 10:40 Introduction by Prof. Jos Walenkamp, The Hague University of Applied Sciences
- 10:55 Keynote Address by Ambassador H.E. Mr. Francis Kotia
- 11:05 Statement by Dr. James Kofi Kutsoati, Dep. CEO, COCOBOD
- 11:25 Panel Discussion led by Thea Fierens Coordinator SDG-Café

"Cocoa Under Pressure: Securing Resilience, Innovation, and Fair Trade"

Panel:

- COCOBOD Dr. James Kofi Kutsoati
- Netherlands African Business Council Mr. Mattijs Renden
- Wageningen University Mr. Oscar Kwame Sottie
- MD of Black Swan Consult and Forner GM of GNBCC Tjalling Y. Wiarda MA MBA

12:30 - Lunch Break

13:30 – Workshops led by RVO and Equal Trade Alliance

"Dutch Policy and financial instruments on Ghana cocoa sector" (RVO) - Vincent van Reenen

"Equal trade certificate concept" (Equal Trade Alliance) - Mr. Max Koffi

14:30 - Tea/Coffee Break

15:00 - Address by Dr. Jill Wilkinson, Managing Director, The Hague Humanity Hub

15:20 - Panel Discussion led by - Dr. Kwasi Boahene, Director of Health Systems PharmAccess

"Attracting investors to the Ghana Cocoa sector"

Panel:

- RVO Vincent van Reenen
- VNO NCW MKB M. A (Marhijn) Visser Dep Director international Affairs ESG Lead
- PUM Country manager Ghana Mr. Maurits Verhagen
- Equal Trade Alliance Mr. Max Koffi
- Akwasi Activist for the Africans goal.

16:30 - Closing Remarks -

16:45 - Vote of Thanks - AfroEuro Representative - Deborah Afolani

6th June Investment and partnership discussions

11:00 – Opening Remarks - Mr. Stephen Ashia - Cocoa Farmers Association

11:20 - Workshop led by Mr. Peter Boon, Gushikama Business Consult & Dr. Issac Manu

"Attracting investors and partners in the cocoa sector"

One-on-one consult with Peter Boon on investment opportunities after workshop

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 – Franchise 4 Development, led by Max Koffi, Africa in Motion & Prof. Peter Knorringa Institute of Social Studies

Round Table Discussion:

Young professionals prospectives in the cocoa sector

Panel:

- SDG-Café youth
- Owura Yeboah, Ghana Young Professionals –
- Mr. Jerome Kweku Sam (Cocobod)
- Naana Yaa Boatemaa Asiedu, Vice versa Ghana
- Mr. Louis Manu, Co-founder and CEO Wi-flix BV
- Akwasi Activist for the Africans goal.

16:30 – closing and networking

7th June - Ghana Chocolate Exhibition

10:00 – Opening of the Ghana Chocolate Exhibition:

• Dep. CEO, COCOBOD – Dr. James Kofi Kutsoati

11:00 - Panel Discussion: Led by Ms. Naomi Tuinstra (Dutch Embassy Ghana)

"Building Bridges: The Role of the Embassy in Strengthening Ghana's Cocoa Sector and Connecting the Diaspora."

Panel:

- Nana Afua Achia (Chair Lady, Ghana Sweden chamber of Commerce)
- Nana Kofi Amponsah
- Mr. Kwame Aviane Vice President Ghana Union Netherlands
- Mr. Williem Manful Ghana Embassy Netherlands
- Mr. Dawud Kodua Enning (Cocobod)
- Naana Yaa Boatemaa Asiedu (Country Coordinator, Vice Versa Media Ghana)
- Cocoa Farmers Association Mr. Stephen Ashia

13:00 Barbeque Break

15:00 - End of Chocolate Exhibition, Reception & Closing of the Program