



Cocoa Agribusiness Development and Women Farmers' Employment Opportunities in Côte d'Ivoire: An Action Research Study,

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Abstract

Côte d'Ivoire is a major cocoa producer in West Africa, with significant employment opportunities for women farmers in its agribusiness sector. An action research approach was employed, involving qualitative interviews and focus group discussions with women cocoa farmers and industry stakeholders. Women farmers reported increased participation in cooperative organizations, which provided them with better access to markets and training opportunities. The study highlights the importance of enhancing women's organisational capacity within cocoa agribusiness for sustainable development. Policy recommendations include strengthening cooperative structures and providing financial support to ensure equitable benefits from cocoa production. Cocoa, Agribusiness Development, Women Farmers, Employment Opportunities

Keywords: *Côte d'Ivoire, agro-business, gender studies, participatory action research, rural development, microfinance, empowerment initiatives*

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