

ATSAF - CGIAR++ Junior Scientists Program

Final Report

Name of student: Helen Blum

University: University of Hohenheim

Supervisor at University: Prof. Regina Birner, Dr. Christine Bosch

International Agricultural Research Center: International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)

Country: Peru

Supervisor at IARC: Dr. Jonathan Mockshell

Start and end date of stay at IARC: 21 Oct 2021 - 19 Jan 2022

Start and end date of remotely supervised project: 01 Oct 2021 - 31 Mar 2022

Title: Governance of multi-stakeholder platforms to achieve agroecological transitions in the cocoa value chain in Ucayali, Peru

Funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Description of activities

22.10.2021 Arrival in Lima

After arriving in Lima field work in Pucallpa, Ucayali was prepared. Therefore, several meetings with local CIAT staff (Maria Claudia) were held in local cafés. Due to the pandemic it was not possible to visit CIAT offices in Lima and meet more CIAT staff in person. Furthermore Zoom meetings were held with Jose Sanchez Choy, who is our main contact person from CIAT in Pucallpa and has been working with them in the Ucayali region for many years.

02.11.2021: Arrival in Pucallpa

During the stay in Pucallpa, a total of 15 interviews that are listed below were held. All interviews have been recorded to allow transcribing and a more detailed analysis of the data.

We held different types of interviews including in-depth interviews, Net-Map sessions as well as Q-sort sessions. The in depth-interviews were used to get a better picture of the cocoa value chain, allowing the preparation of the Net-Map and Q-Sort sessions. These sessions were prepared and held during our field stay. Most of the interviews were held in Pucallpa but travelling to Neshuya and Curimaná was required to interview farmers as well as staff of the respective cacao cooperation and association.

#	Date	Name	Stakeholder group	Type	Location
1.	03.11.2021	José Sanchez Choy	CIAT	In-depth	Pucallpa
2.	04.11.2021	Ronald Ruiz	Regional government, secretary of the technical roundtable, Regional directorate of agriculture	In-depth	Pucallpa
3.	04.11.2021	Jerrson	Regional government, former secretary of the technical roundtable	In-depth	Zoom
4.	05.11.2021	Ernesto Parra y Guerra	Manager of Colpa de	In-depth	Neshuya

			Loros (Cacao cooperative)		
5.	06.11.2021	Camara Agraria de Ucayali (CADU)	Public-private entity	In-depth	Pucallpa
6.	9.11.2021	Yanina Ratachi	Paisajes Productivo Sostenibles (sustainable productive landscapes), project led by the Peruvian Ministry of the environment	In-depth	Zoom
7.	10.11.2021	José Sanchez Choy	CIAT	In-depth	Pucallpa
8.	13.11.2021	José Sanchez Choy	CIAT	Net-Map	Pucallpa
9.	18.11.2021	Cristian Chambilla	Alianza Cacao (USAID financed NGO)	In-depth	Zoom
10.	19.11.2021	Ernesto Parra y Guerra	Cacao cooperative Colpa de Loros	Net-Map	Pucallpa
11.	23.11.2021	Jerrson	Regional government	Net-Map	Pucallpa
12.	24.11.2021	Ing. Vicente Núñez Ramírez	Regional development manager	In-depth	Pucallpa
13.	26.11.2021	Alex, +1	Farmers association in Curimaná	Net-Map	Curimaná
14.	26.11.2021	5 farmers	Farmers association in Curimaná	Q-sort	Curimaná
15.	29.11.2021	11 farmers	Cacao cooperative Colpa de Loros	Q-Sort	Neshuya
16.	16.12.2021	Augusto Castro	CIAT Leader	In-depth	Cali

			Low emissions food systems		
--	--	--	----------------------------------	--	--

Table 1 : Interviews

Several Zoom meetings with Dr. Christine Bosch and Dr. Jonathan Mockshell were held in between to discuss the progress made.

We were furthermore able to witness different workshops held by CIAT. One of them was held on 13.11.2021 in the hotel Manich in Pucallpa. Several stakeholders of not only the cacao value chain but also palm oil, were invited to discuss the joint vision of the sector.

On 16.11.2021 and 17.11.2021 we were able to participate in workshops held in the farmers' association Curimaná. The workshops aimed at learning about farmers perspectives and presenting the different sustainable agricultural practices that mitigate CO2 emissions.

On 19.11.2021 we were able to join a public auditory of the congress, where the agricultural chamber (CADU) and the technical roundtables presented the necessities needs of farmers and the problems in the cacao sector to politicians, followed by a public auditory.

30.11.2021 : Travelling back to Lima

Back in Lima, the process of transcribing and coding the data using MAXQDA was started.

Interaction with local communities

The first contact with local farmers were made in the above mentioned workshop that was held by CIAT staff. The workshop was conducted to learn about farmers perspectives on zero deforestation and the relationship with cacao and to present sustainable agricultural practices that can lower CO2 emissions. The following pictures were taken on that day.





We furthermore engaged with local communities with the Q-sort sessions we held in Curimaná were unfortunately only 5 of 15 invited farmers participated.



And we also had the chance to meet farmers that are working with Colpa de Loros.



Limitations and difficulties

After the first interviews I conducted with stakeholders of the multi-stakeholder platform (technical roundtable) it was realized that it will be difficult to base the research project only on the analyzation the multi-stakeholder platform as planned because it is not functioning as we expected it to do. Hence, we decided to select the cacao cooperative Colpa de Loros and the farmers' association Curimaná in order to have Net-Map sessions with them as well. This allows the comparison of challenges and success on different levels in the cacao value chain. The two organizations were selected because Colpa de Loros serve as a role model in the cacao sector in Ucayali and the association in Curimaná is less developed and faces more challenges. We furthermore faced the issue of absenteeism of all kind of stakeholders in all kind of activities. Starting from workshops that were given by CIAT, by us, or meetings of the multi-stakeholder platform.

Cooperativa de cacao Colpa de Loros



These fotos are from the facilities of Colpa de Loros. We were impressed to find that they are producing Biogas from cocoa residues. They furthermore produce organic seedlings, and fertilizers which they supply to the farmers



Cacao association Curimaná

The following fotos were taken in Curimaná, at the moment they are also working on producing their own fertilizers.



Visiting CIAT office in Cali

10.12.2021 : Arrival in Bogotá

From Bogotá I travelled to Cali by bus, in order to meet my supervisor Jonathan Mockshell and to visit the CIAT campus in Cali. It was planned to have a presentation of preliminary results. This presentation was however postponed, because many of CIAT staff were on Christmas leave already.

During my day at CIAT I had the chance to discuss my findings with Dr. Jonathan Mockshell and to get insights into the day to day business of CIAT.

I furthermore had the chance to discuss my findings with Augusto Castro, who is the leader of low emissions food systems at CIAT and has been responsible for managing the funding of the project. It became clear that global narratives have a great influence on project design.

During my stay in Cali I also met Andres Charry, who has been working in the SAB project in Pucallpa. It was very insightful to get his personal opinion on the CIAT project and to discuss institutional and structural issues of the CIAT project with him.

