



FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED™

FAIR TRADE COCOA COOPERATIVE PROFILE

# GHANA



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## Kuapa Kokoo, Ghana



### About the Co-op

**Date Established:** 1993

**Number of Members:** 35,000

**Annual Production:** 58 containers

*“A bite of Fair Trade chocolate means a lot to peasant farmers in the south. It opens the doors to development and gives children access to healthcare, education, and a decent standard of living.”*  
Ohemeng-Tinyase,  
Managing Director of Kuapa Kokoo

Kuapa Kokoo is a 35,000-member cocoa producer cooperative founded in Ghana in 1993. It represents a unique empowerment effort that enables small cocoa farmers to have a voice in government and attain more information regarding their dealings with cocoa buyers. Kuapa Kokoo is made up of village societies that elect committees and representatives at a regional level, who in turn elect representatives to the National Union. This Union represents farmers' interests to government and industry bodies, and shares information that is beneficial to its members.

Kuapa Kokoo owns 33% of the Day Chocolate Company which sells Fair Trade Certified Divine and Dubble chocolates in the UK and US. This unique venture allows Kuapa Kokoo's members to increase their profits from their cocoa and enhance their knowledge of the western chocolate market.

Sales to the Fair Trade market have enabled the cooperative to provide its members with the following:

- Access to credit and banking services
- New equipment including scales that reduce farmers' dependency on the scales of middlemen
- Machines for cracking palm kernels which greatly reduce the workload of the women
- Improvements to the community through the funding of community projects
- Information about world market prices which protects them from corrupt traders

In the Ghanaian language of Twi, Kuapa Kokoo means “Good Cocoa Farmers Company. Their motto is “Pa Pa Paa” which means, “the best of the best.”