

Sustainable Farming in Tropical Asian Landscapes



Title	Sustainable Farming in Tropical Asian Landscapes (SFITAL)
Timeframe	2020–2025
Funding partner	International Fund for Agricultural Development
Location	Indonesia and The Philippines
Lead	World Agroforestry (ICRAF)
Key partners	Rainforest Alliance Indonesia–UTZ, Mars Incorporated
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Background

The Sustainable Farming in Tropical Asian Landscapes (SFITAL) is a five-year research-in-development project that aims to link small-scale producers to global supply chains in an environmentally sustainable, economically viable and socially responsible manner.

SFITAL is a remarkable multi-stakeholder partnership between different organizations: [World Agroforestry \(ICRAF\)](#) is leading implementation; [International Fund for Agricultural Development \(IFAD\)](#) is providing funding and a relationship network; [Mars, Incorporated](#) (Mars) and [Rainforest Alliance–UTZ](#) are key partners working in the



commercial sector. The purpose of this unique partnership is to drive positive change in the production and management of two hugely popular raw materials to strengthen the sector's resilience. SFITAL is a response to the growing demand to transform the world's food systems toward sustainability, with both sectors – public and private – working together to find solutions.

SFITAL will apply sustainable agricultural management systems in entire landscapes rather than in segregated and differently administered and managed areas. It will focus on two raw materials – palm oil in Indonesia; and cocoa in Indonesia and the Philippines – that provide livelihoods, employment and business opportunities for rural communities yet are cultivated in areas facing environmental threats, such as water stress, decreased agrobiodiversity and deforestation.

ICRAF, IFAD, Mars and Rainforest Alliance UTZ foresee opportunities that can address such threats while

meeting the demand for food of a booming global population. These opportunities can amplify a growing consensus to transform business-as-usual approaches in the world's food systems into sustainable management systems.

The SFITAL project partners are responding to this call by tapping into their rich experience in building multi-stakeholder partnerships, co-investment for provision of ecosystem services and in accessing blended finance for small-scale producers.

For instance, in the Philippines, Mars partnered with Kennermer Foods International in 2012 and established more than 15,000 hectares of cocoa plantations. Through SFITAL, Kennermer aims to establish cocoa-based agroforestry systems in Mindanao to scale up sustainable cocoa value-chains. This will involve producer-community development, financial links, farmer support programs, and enterprise development.



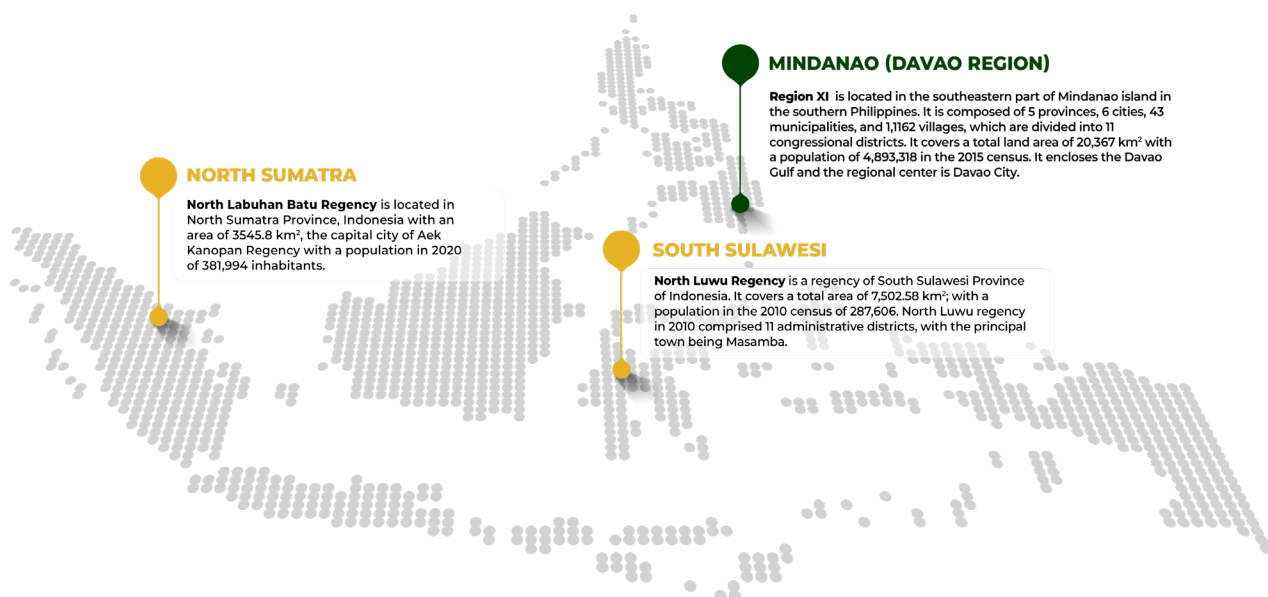
Objectives

The main objective of SFITAL is to transform small-scale producers into both agricultural entrepreneurs and environmental agents who benefit from sustainably managed value chains in Asia.

A collaborative effort by governments, industry, non-governmental organizations and others is needed to co-design and implement with small-scale producers' new ways of operating. To address these complex challenges, SFITAL will draw on the experience in the two countries with the two raw materials to 1) enhance both environmental and social management systems

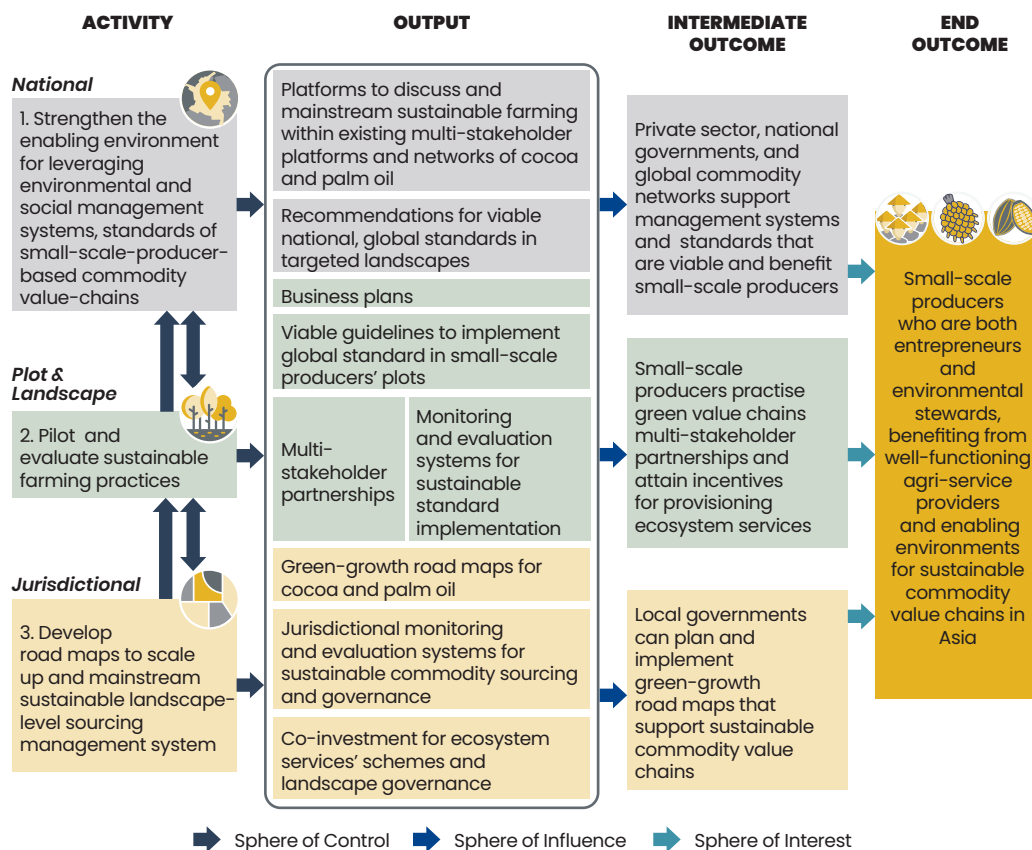
and production standards in whole landscapes to be viable for on-the-ground implementation, to meet sustainability and strategic positioning in the global market; 2) increase participation of small-scale producers in value chains based on sustainably sourced raw materials; 3) strengthen enabling environments towards green-growth jurisdictions by inclusive involvement of local governments and others for expanding the global scale of sustainable value chains of the two raw materials from the targeted landscapes; and 4) generate and promote learning through integrated and effective knowledge and project management.

Area coverage



The three regions have been selected based on being key production landscapes for the two raw materials and a history of supportive projects that can be drawn on to enrich the work of SFITAL.

Pathways from objectives to end outcome



Technical Advisory Committees (TAC) comprising representatives from national governments and multistakeholder platforms for cocoa and palm oil, including industry associations, and experts on sustainable value chains and governance are being established in each country to provide strategic orientation, create synergies and alignment with national activities, policies and existing programs, and develop strategies for impact-

oriented outputs and policies. The Ministry of National Development Planning and Ministry of Agriculture are chairing the TAC in Indonesia. The National Cocoa Industry Council and Department of Agriculture are chairing the TAC in the Philippines.

The SFITAL team encourages more multi-sectoral collaboration to help expand the scale of sustainable farming, ensuring the swift transformation of the world's food systems.

World Agroforestry (ICRAF) Southeast Asia Regional Program

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