**BASIC FARMER CRITERIA**

1. The farmer’s cocoa farm or domicile is located in the Program area.
2. The farmer owns, rents, or maintains/manages (sharecropping) a cocoa farm that is at least 0.5 ha and has a minimum of 300 producing cacao trees.
3. The cocoa farm is not located within a protected forest.
4. At least 20% of GAP Basic training participants should be women (whether they be the head of the household or a household member).
5. The farmer is committed (by signing a contract) to participating in the total number of training days specified for the duration of the training period.
6. Additional criteria: The farmer actively participates in a farmer group or other local farmer organization.
7. Farmers aged between 18-60 years old are preferred.

**FARMER SELECTION PROCESS**

1. Before a farmer is listed as a participant, the selection process will be conducted through discussion and clarified between Program field staff, Lead Farmers, and Extension Officers.
2. The farmer must be willing to sign an agreement stating that they will participate in and complete FFS scheduled activities, apply GAP in accordance with the SOP, and be willing to share their knowledge and skills to other farmers.
3. The farmer is listed as a candidate to become a participant in the FFS.
4. Candidates are grouped according to their capabilities (education, age, knowledge/skill).
5. The successful candidates will have to be registered and given a Farmer ID in CocoaTrace.
6. The participant will be required to fill in the GAP Basic Baseline form before commencing training.
**LEAD FARMER SELECTION PROCESS:**

1. Selecting Lead Farmers from new farmers (not yet involved in the Program): Farmers that are nominated will be assessed through discussion with informal public leaders, village heads and farmer group members in order to select the best candidate to undertake Training of Trainers (TOT) training and lead FFS.

2. Selecting Lead Farmers from the existing farmers (those who have joined the FFS): During FFS activities, the Field Facilitator, existing Lead Farmer, Extension Officer and FFS members chose the candidates and select the appropriate candidate to become a Lead Farmer.

3. Incorporating female Lead Farmer candidates into the Lead Farmer selection process is an important aspect for the gender requirements.

4. The Field Facilitator, together with the Field Coordinator and Program Officer are responsible for ensuring that the selection process fulfills the gender equality requirements. Women must fill 20% of the total Lead Farmer positions available and they are recruited with the same selection criteria as men.

5. Select existing Lead Farmers who are willing to offer help and assistance to new villages where there is currently not Lead Farmers.

6. Male or Female Lead Farmers must be willing to provide the correct information as the baseline for all trainings (GAP Basic, GAP Advanced, GEP, GFP).

7. The successful candidates will sign an agreement.

8. The successful candidates will have to be registered and given a Farmer ID in CocoaTrace.

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**LEAD FARMER CRITERIA**

1. The farmer’s cocoa farm or domicile is located in the Program area.
2. The farmer owns, rents, or maintains/manages (sharecropping) a cocoa farm that is at least 1 ha and has a minimum of 500 producing cacao trees.
3. The cocoa farm is not located within a protected forest.
4. The farmer will be committed (by signing a contract) to participating in the total number of training days specified for the duration of the training period.
5. The farmer actively participates in a farmer group or other local farmer organization.
6. Those with an education level of at least Junior High (SMP) will be prioritized.
7. Farmers aged between 23-55 years old are preferred.

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**THE FARMER FIELD SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS**

FFS participants are farmers whose main source of household income comes from cocoa farming while also meeting the criteria requirements. For the purpose of candidate clarification and confirmation, it is requested that a list of farmers be made followed by village discussions to explore and identify these potential Farmer Field School candidates. The successful candidates must be entered into the Program’s data system before commencing the training sessions.

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**THE LEAD FARMER**

The Lead Farmer is the most important person in the Program’s training activities. He/she will be the direct point of contact for the Program’s Field Facilitator and act as the Program’s medium between its IT systems and the village. The Lead Farmer’s cocoa farm could become a demo plot for training activities in order to show good agricultural practices and the high productivity that is possible through improved farm management.