

Executive summary

In the framework of the Harkin –Engel protocol signed in September 2001, the threat not to access the US market with the cocoa beans produced in Côte d'Ivoire was a very heavy burden for the Ivorian cocoa, with the certification of the cocoa production process scheduled by July 1st 2005. The certification deals with the issue of worst forms of child labor in the cocoa sector.

Côte d'Ivoire has dealt with this threat in providing a sustainable and multiform response to the issue. The response includes legal, institutional and on the grounds aspects.

This has brought into the postponement for July 1st 2008 the deadline of the certification of the cocoa production process on 50% of cocoa producing areas in the country.

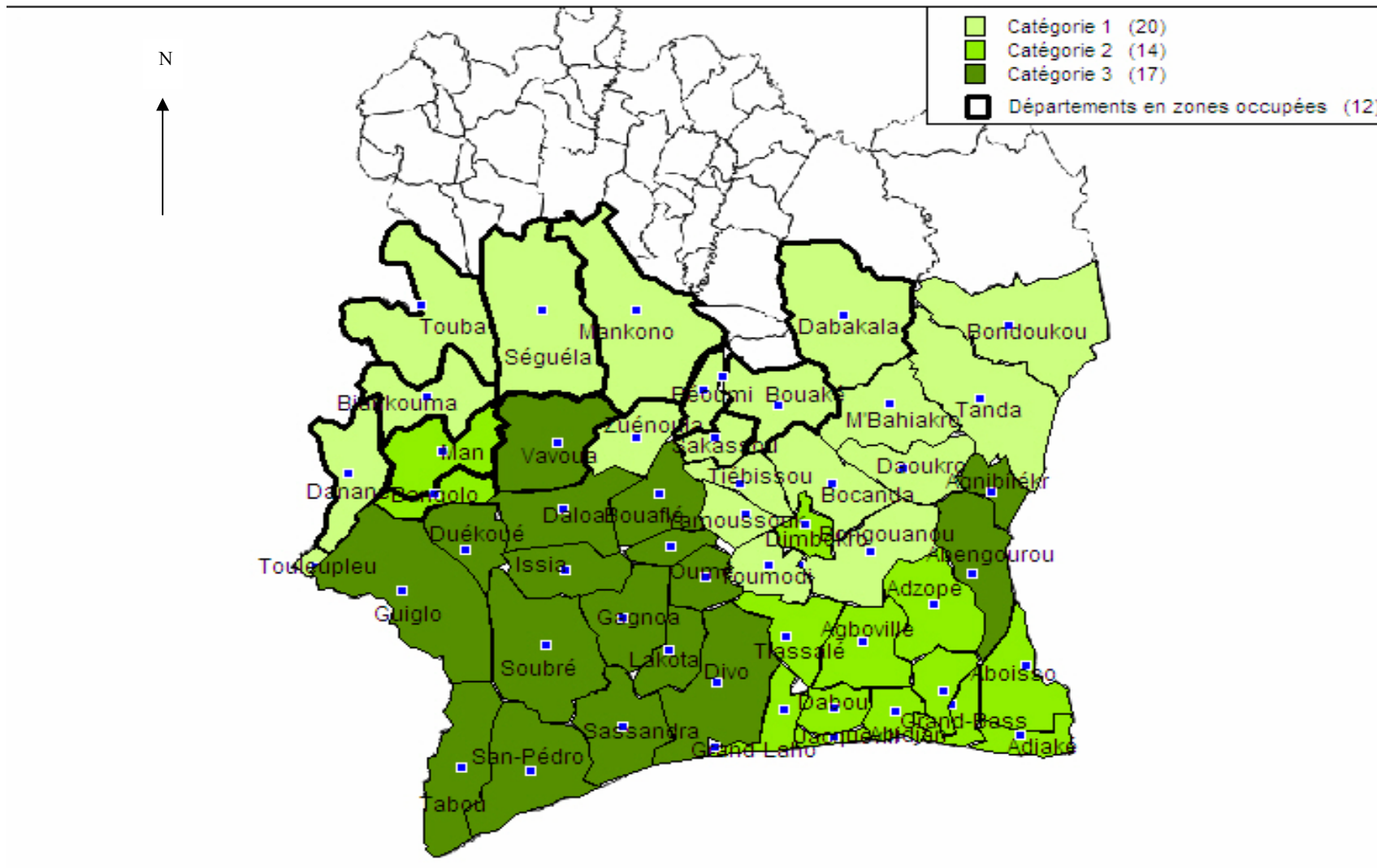
Given the deadline and the disparities between areas of production, Côte d'Ivoire and the chocolate industry of chocolate have acknowledged the necessity to categorize these areas of production in order to define a representative sampling of the operations' areas.

The study report remains a statistical analysis of a series of secondary data at our disposal. This study using some variables linked with the child labor situation in the cocoa sector has helped distinguish three categories of cocoa producing departments in Côte d'Ivoire:

- Category 1: the departments of this category are characterized by a low production of cocoa, a strong native proportion of population, a strong rate of literacy, a strong proportion of children, and a weak part of agriculture in the economy. There are 20 departments and contributing for about 2% of the national production ;
- Category 2: departments located in this category are characterized by an average production of cocoa, a average diversity of population by origin, and a strong rate of literacy of the agricultural population. It gathers 14 departments, contributing for about 11 % of the national production ;
- Category 3: Departments are characterized by a strong production of cocoa, a strong diversity of population by origin, a strong rate of literacy, a low proportion of children, and a strong part of agriculture in the economy. This category regroups 17 departments, contributing to 87% of the national production.

On this basis, the statistical units being the cocoa farmer and the child, the report has recommended a marginal error of 5% for the computerization of the size of sample. This gives a total sample of 7,304 cocoa farmers and 30, 677 children to be surveyed within the three categories of cocoa producing areas.

Categorization of cocoa producing areas in Côte d'Ivoire



Graphics #5: Map of the categories of cocoa producing areas in Cote d'Ivoire