



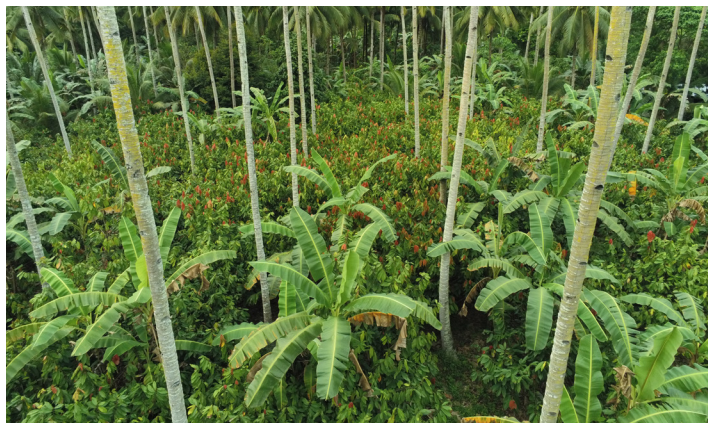
CACAOmustahan

Regular bulletin for the Sustainable Farming in Tropical Asian Landscapes in the Philippines

Volume 01, Issue 03 | Special year-end issue

💡 Cacaohibalo (Cacao knowledge)

Which land-use is most profitable in Davao de Oro? SFITAL finds out



As part of its deliverables, the Sustainable Farming in Tropical Asian Landscapes (SFITAL) team in the Philippines looked at the profitability of various land-uses found in Davao de Oro.

Based on the remotely sensed and groundtruthed land-use maps of Davao de Oro, the analysis looked at several land-

uses in the Province, namely cacao monocrop, cacao-based agroforestry, timber-based agroforestry, rice monoculture, corn monoculture, coconut-based agroforestry, coconut monocrop, African oil palm plantation, rubber-based agroforestry, and banana monocrop, among others. All in all, the SFITAL Team was able to gather 105 responses

across Nabunturan, with some samples from Mawab, Laak, and Maragusan.

Responses were then used to analyze the profitability of the said land-uses, using five economic indicators. These indicators include revenue-cost ratio, return to land, return to capital, return to labor, and establishment cost.

In conclusion, it was found that coconut-based agroforestry and African oil palm plantations has the highest revenue-cost ratio, which is the measure of efficiency which compares earnings over cost. In terms of return to land or the value of money attributed to the cost of the land, African oil palm plantation was found to be most profitable in early to post productive stages, while

coconut-based agroforestry and cacao monocrop were most profitable in peak productive stages. Additionally, in terms of return to capital, African oil palm plantation in early to post productive stages was considered most profitable, followed by cacao monocrop in early and peak productive stages. In terms of return to labor or the returns to one's involvement in production, cacao monocrop, coconut-based agroforestry, oil palm plantation, and rubber-based agroforestry generated the highest values. Lastly, when it comes to establishment, banana monocrop was found to be the most expensive yet most attractive land-use. Vegetable production, cacao monocrop, and oil palm plantation were also found to be attractive for farmers.

Findings of this profitability analysis are still up for validation and will be released as a technical brief in the coming months. 🌱

🕒 Pagrepasso sa kahibalo (Knowledge review)



the Philippines, it was argued that multi-stakeholder involvement is necessary for smallholders to reach the target production level.

Perfect spot: Most of Davao de Oro is suitable for cacao growing

It was found that over 58% of Davao de Oro's land is moderately suitable for cacao growing, while 15% is highly suitable. Only 10% of the area is considered to have 'very low' and 'low' suitability. The analysis also confirmed that the land that are currently being used for agroforestry is also suitable for cacao. 🌱

This year, SFITAL Philippines produced several research outputs which tries to look in-depth on Davao de Oro's cacao industry. Some of the things we found out were:

Multi-sectoral involvement, necessary for sustainable cocoa industry in the Philippines

In a policy and regulation review conducted by the SFITAL Team in

🔗 SFITAL on the web

This year, SFITAL Philippines launched several online channels that intends to keep you in-the-know on the project's outputs and recent progress:



Facebook Community: [Cacaomustahan on FB](https://www.facebook.com/groups/cacaomustahanph)

This Community serves as a knowledge exchange platform for SFITAL stakeholders based in Davao de Oro. This is open for cacao growers, extension officers, and government officials from the province. This is a platform for sharing cacao- and SFITAL-related information, questions, and concerns.



Website: [Cacaomustahan.com](https://www.cacaomustahan.com)

This is the official knowledge portal of SFITAL in the Philippines. The website is still in the beta test, so we want to here your thoughts!

If you have comments, just go to <https://bit.ly/CCMBetaTest> and answer the survey after exploring the site.



facebook.com/groups/cacaomustahanph



[cacaomustahan.com](https://www.cacaomustahan.com)

Daghang sugilanon (Lots of stories)

Here's a quick recap of the SFITAL-related blogs we have published this year on Agroforestry World, ICRAF's official blog site.



Eyes on the prize: making sustainable farming with cacao attractive to farmers in the Philippines

Technical knowledge and sufficient inputs are important to encourage farmers to adopt sustainable farming practices. But is it enough? Researchers say, not always.

Read more [here](#).



After the storm: sustaining cacao's development momentum in Davao de Oro, Philippines

Cacao farmers need more help if they are to meet targets in the face of natural disasters.

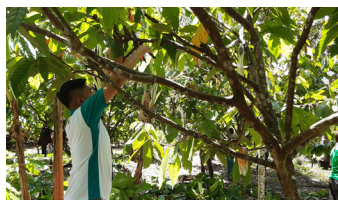
Read more [here](#).



It's a match: Maximizing Davao de Oro's potential for growing cacao

Researchers have confirmed that Davao de Oro is moderately suitable for cacao. What does that mean for local growers and policymakers?

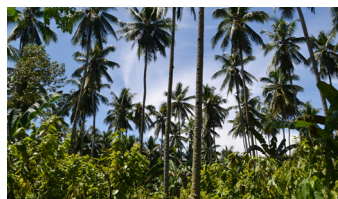
Read more [here](#).



Better together: institutionalizing a multi-stakeholder partnership for Davao de Oro's cacao industry

As cliché as it may sound, synergy between stakeholders from a range of sectors is necessary for any industry to thrive – including the cacao industry of Davao de Oro in the Philippines.

Read more [here](#).



Getting the right mix: Agroforestry as an effective strategy to boost Davao de Oro's cacao industry

ICRAF researchers recently found that Davao de Oro is moderately suitable for cacao production, showing the province's huge potential. But there is room for improvement in current cacao management practices. In terms of strategy, specialists suggest going back to basics – agroforestry.

Read more [here](#).

Check out other stories from ICRAF's [Agroforestry World](#) or scan the QR code!



Check out our SFITAL Philippines' knowledge resources on our knowledge portal! Go to <https://cacaomustahan.com> or scan the QR code!

SFITAL's 2022 in review

Here are the highlights of what we have been up to the past year:

4 Reports

This year, SFITAL Philippines drafted four major reports namely:

- Policy and regulation review of cacao sustainability in the Philippines
- Existing cacao production best practices and proposed improved cacao-based agroforestry systems
- Cacao suitability of Davao de Oro
- Profitability of land uses in Davao de Oro



2 Field visits

The SFITAL Team had the chance to visit Davao de Oro twice to meet with partners, including local government units and farmer organizations, as well as to gather data for project deliverables. The first visit was done in February, followed by another visit from the last week of July to the first week of August.



3 Newsletter issues

Three issues of the Cacaomustahan newsletter were released this year. These were disseminated online via Issuu, Facebook, and email.

5 Blogs

Five SFITAL-related stories were published on Agroforestry World, ICRAF's official blog site. These feature stories from the field and highlights of project outputs.

In 2023...

Planned activities for 2023 include:

- SFITAL Technical Advisory Committee Round-table discussion
- Release of technical briefs on the drafted reports
- and many more!