

# Where does chocolate come from?



A ripe pod on a tree.



Cocoa farmers split the pods and scrape out the cacao beans.



Checking and turning the fermenting beans



Selecting the dried beans.



Weighing and selling the beans.



Loading the beans onto a truck ready to export by ship.



Turning the beans into chocolate and testing at a factory.



Buying the finished chocolate bars in a local shop.

But not everything about chocolate is so sweet....

- Cocoa farmers only get a fraction of the money we pay for a chocolate bar: the chocolate companies and shops make most of the profits from the cocoa trade.
- Farmers are often cheated by local cocoa buyers who under-weigh their products.
- Modern-day child labour and slavery is associated with the cocoa trade in West Africa.
- Buying Fairtrade products can help ensure a fairer deal for farmers.

Since the 2000s, Western Africa produces almost two-thirds of the world's cocoa.

