



The Cacao Forest Program (Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean)

A fruitful collaboration between science and chocolate

An innovative public/private partnership for a sustainable transformation of the cocoa agri-chain in the Dominican Republic

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1984—2015
COOPERATIVA DE PRODUCTORES AGROPECUARIOS
SAN FELIPE DE MACORIS PROV. DUARTE REP. DOM.
COOPROADERO
31 Años

Local

Fundación
Loma
Quita Espuela



República Dominicana
Comisión Nacional del cacao



ONSORCIO
ITRICOLA del Este

UTECO



UNPHU
Universidad Nacional
Pedro Henríquez Ureña



YACAO S.A.



Private



European

Bjorg Bonneterre
et Compagnie



cirad
LA RECHERCHE AGRONOMIQUE
POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT



República Dominicana
Ministry of Agriculture

República Dominicana
Comisión Nacional del cacao

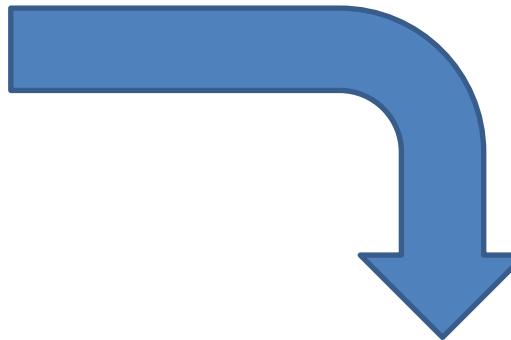
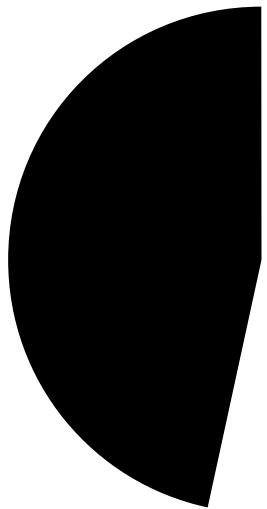
Public



Une école d'ingénieurs au cœur de la vie

Agriculture

Dominican Republic



Palma africana: 1,62% 2,50% : Coco

15,73%

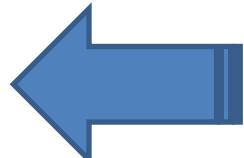
Café

26,12%

Cacao

Caña
de
azucar

54,04%



- 70 000 tons / year
- 1st organic cocoa producer and exporter
(15 000 tons = 60% of the world market)



Locally, the intensification of cocoa production is driven by the private sector, generating its own research on cocoa and cocoa cropping systems.

Public policies are based on the genetic improvement of local cocoa varieties and the development of vegetative multiplication techniques.

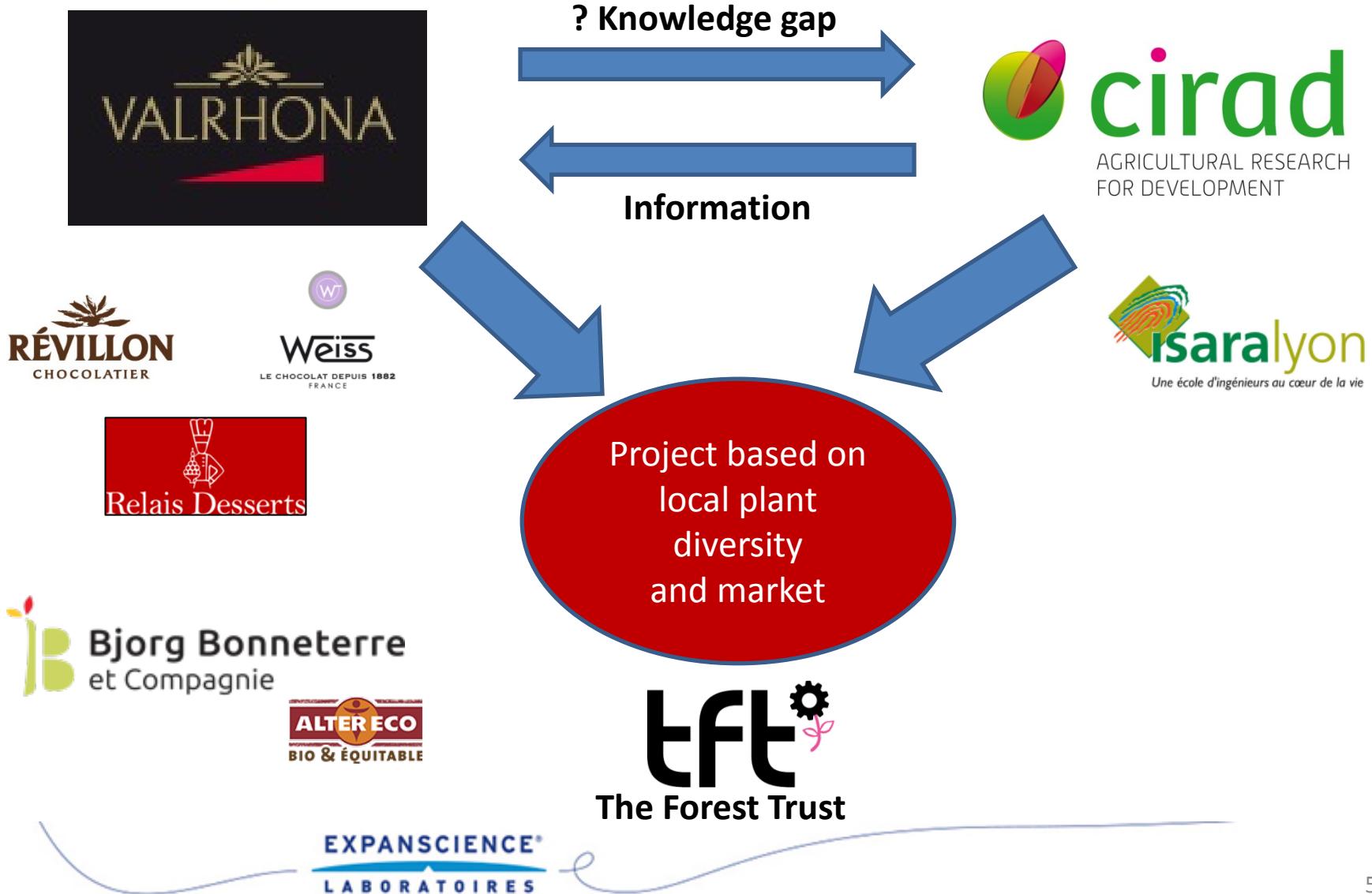


BUT



There is NO baseline and little field information at farm or plot level about how cocoa is grown in the Dominican Republic and what is the productivity of the cocoa field.....

Stakeholders along the value chain , including the producers themselves, seek information from the field!



Most cocoa plantations are over 25 years old....

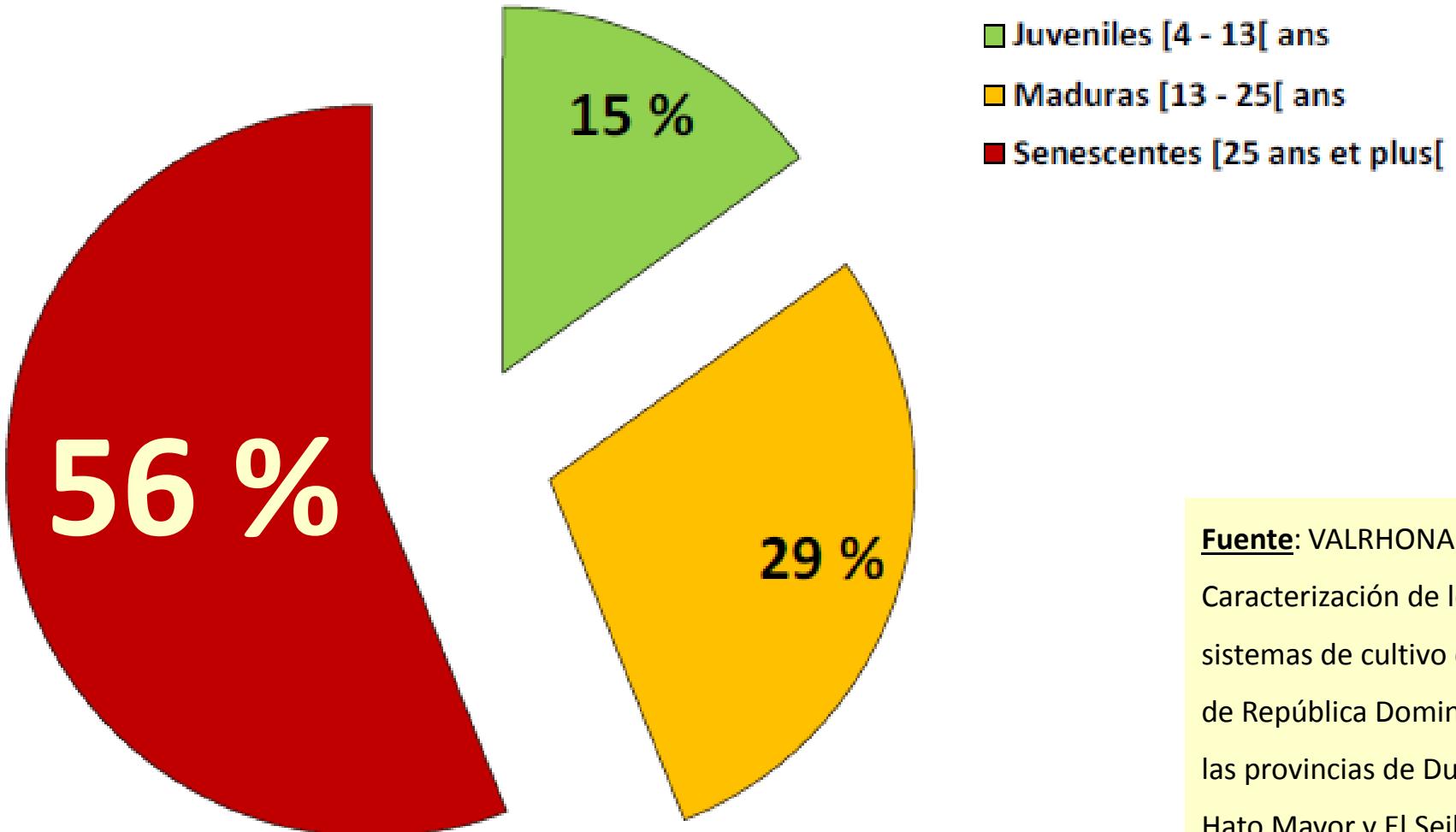
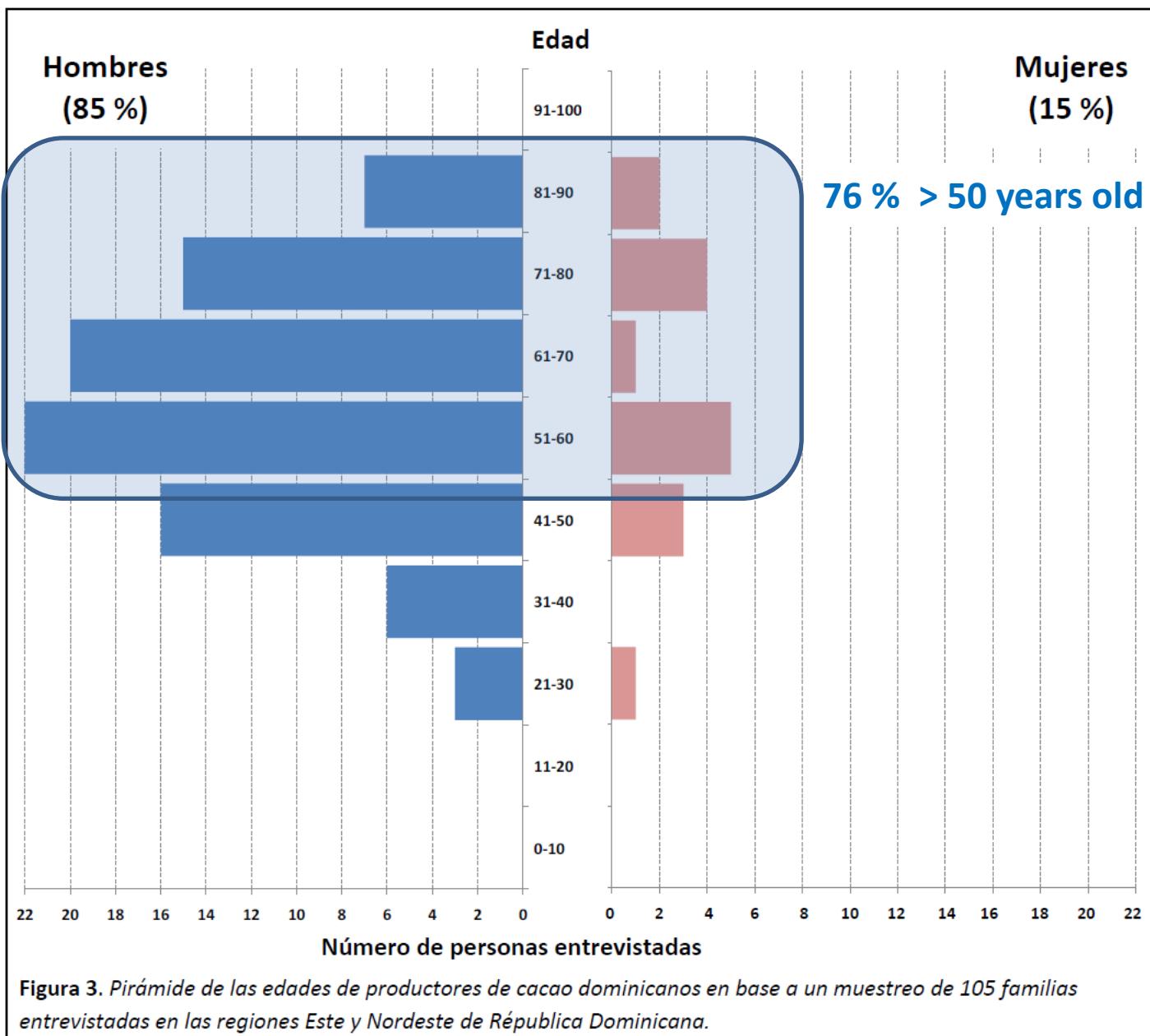


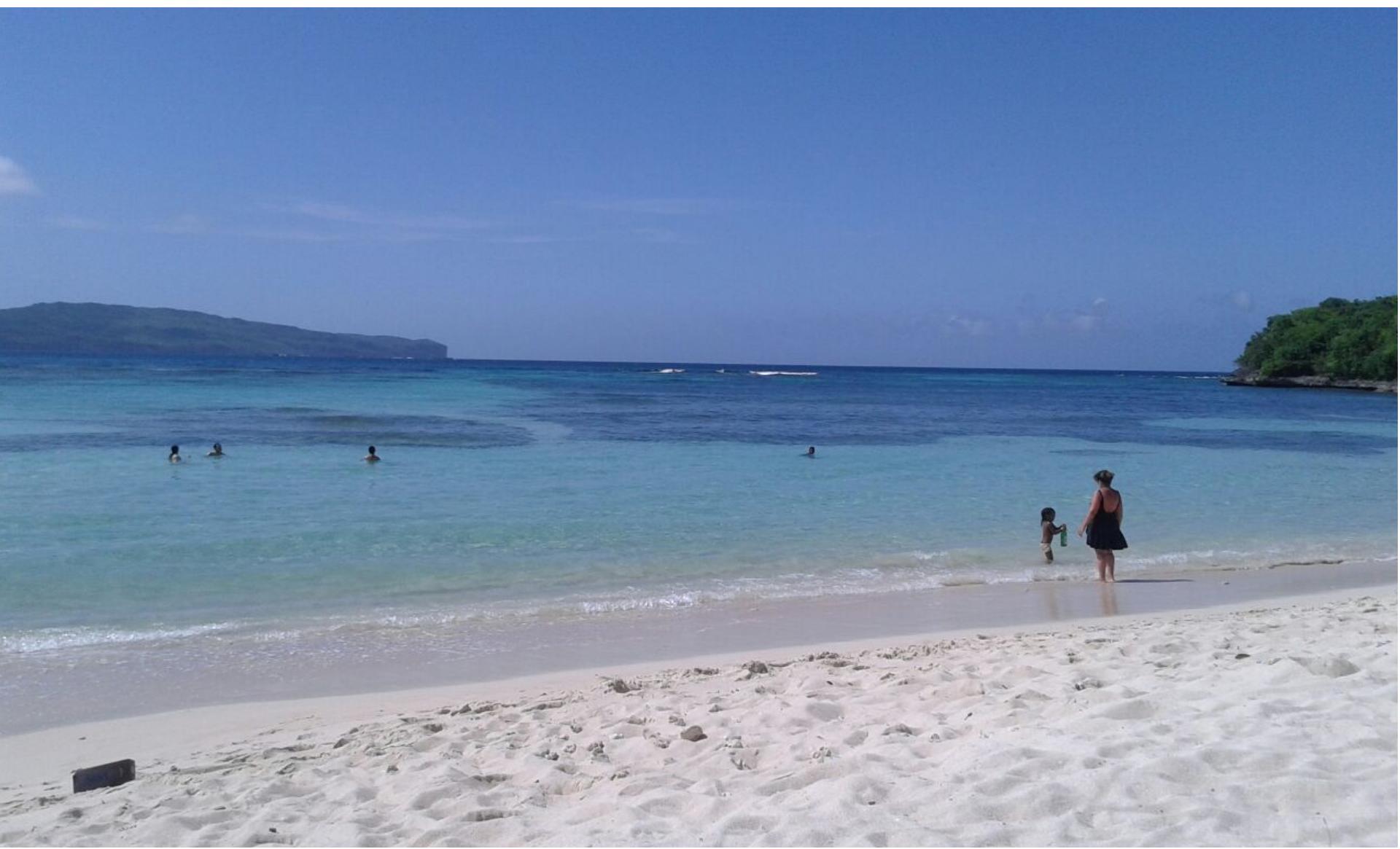
Figura 13. Reparticion de los cacaotales muestreados por clases de edad en Republica Dominicana

...and most cocoa farmers too....



Fuente: VALRHONA. 2015.
Caracterización de los sistemas de cultivo del cacao de República Dominicana en las provincias de Duarte, Hato Mayor y El Seibo. Informe de Consultoría. 77p.

Where are the young cocoa fellows?



Density of the cocoa trees in 100 cocoa-based AFS from 4 to 102 years old

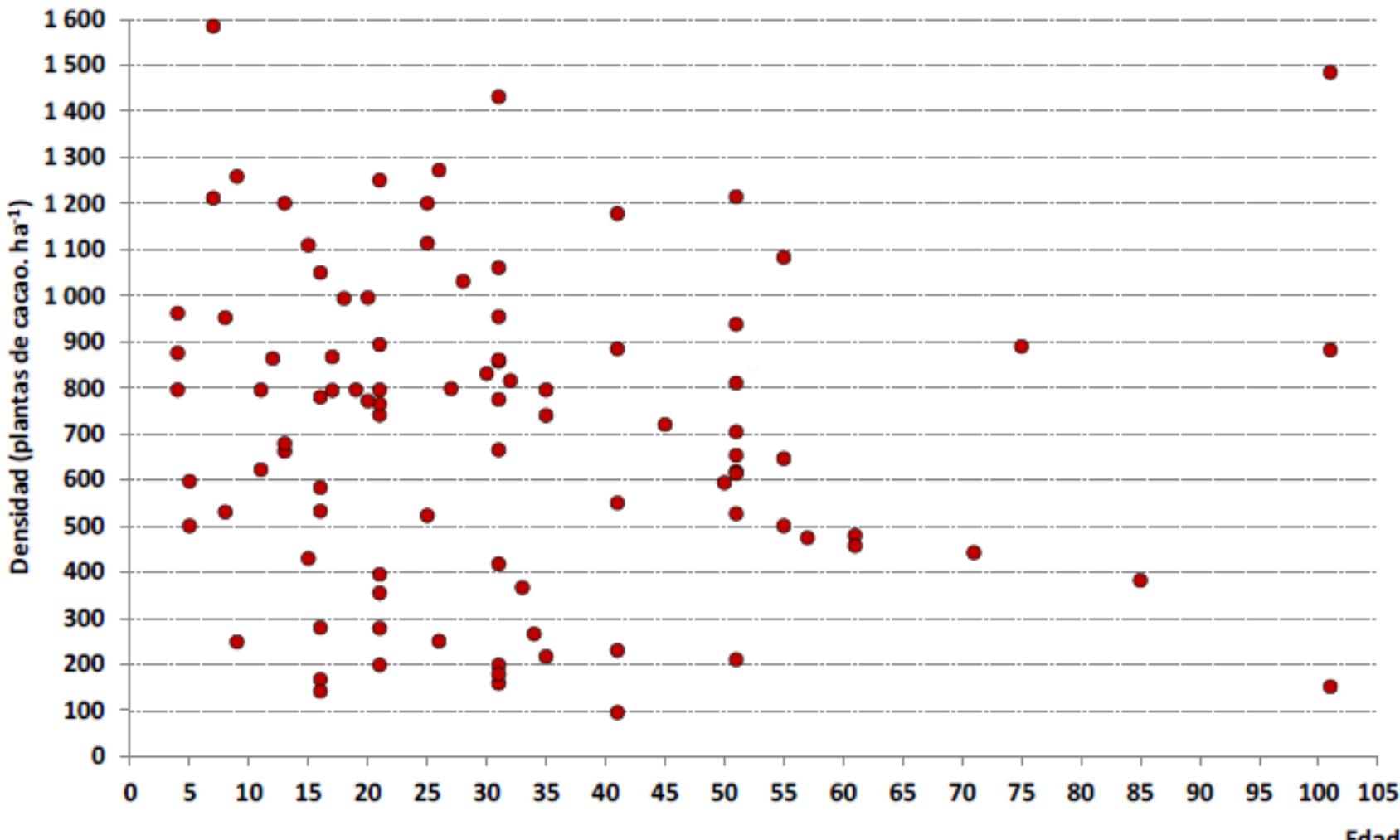


Figura 14. Densidad de plantacion de las plantas de cacao
segun la edad de la parcela en Republica Dominicana

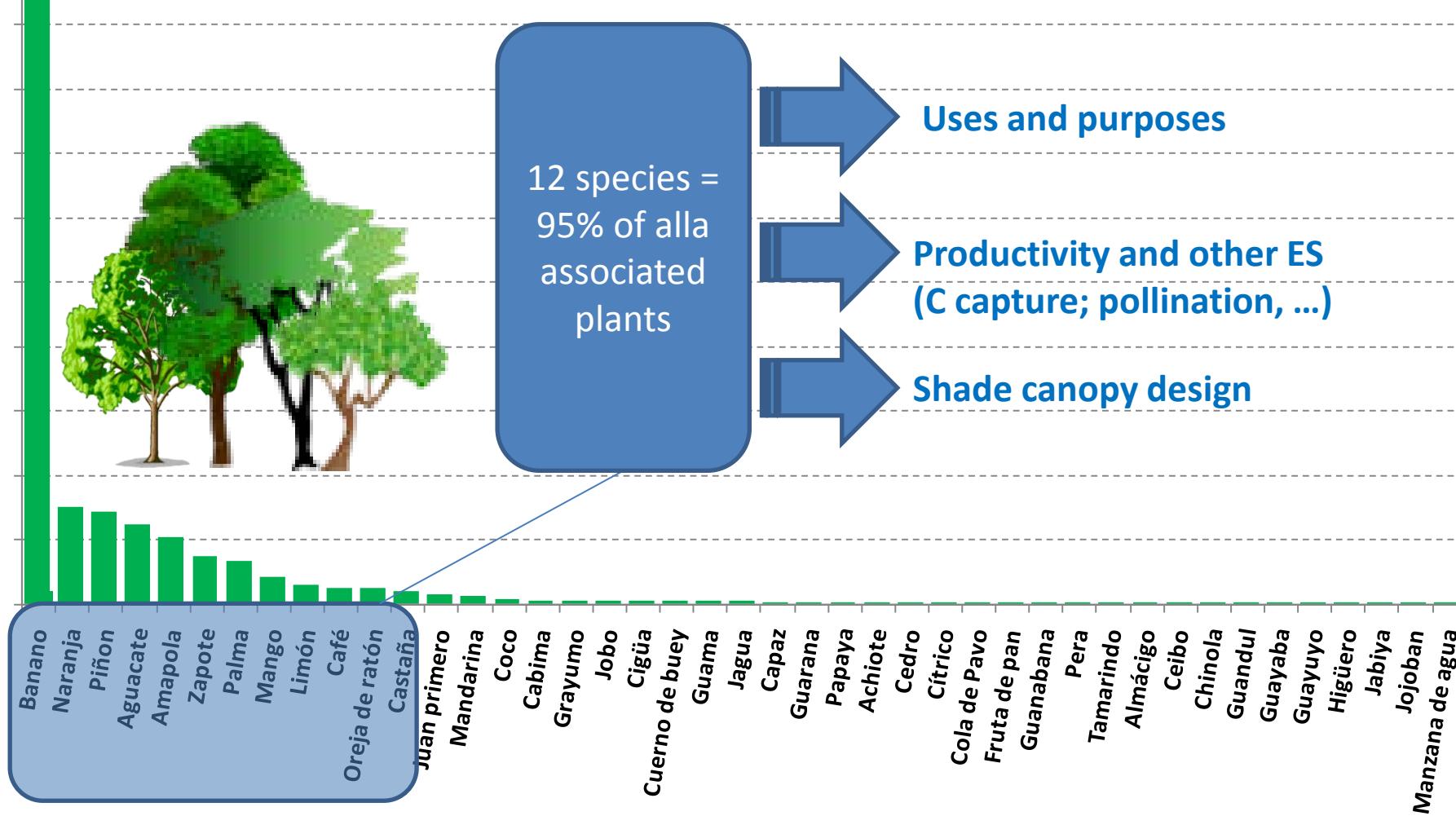
Source: VALRHONA. 2015. Caracterisation of the cocoa-based cropping systems of the Dominican Republic. 77p.

PLANT DIVERSITY:

dCacao= 831 trees.ha⁻¹ [410 -2160]

dBanana= 97 stems.ha⁻¹ [0 -370]

Abundancia (frecuencia de los individuos)
de las 43 especies de plantas asociadas en los cacaotales dominicanos

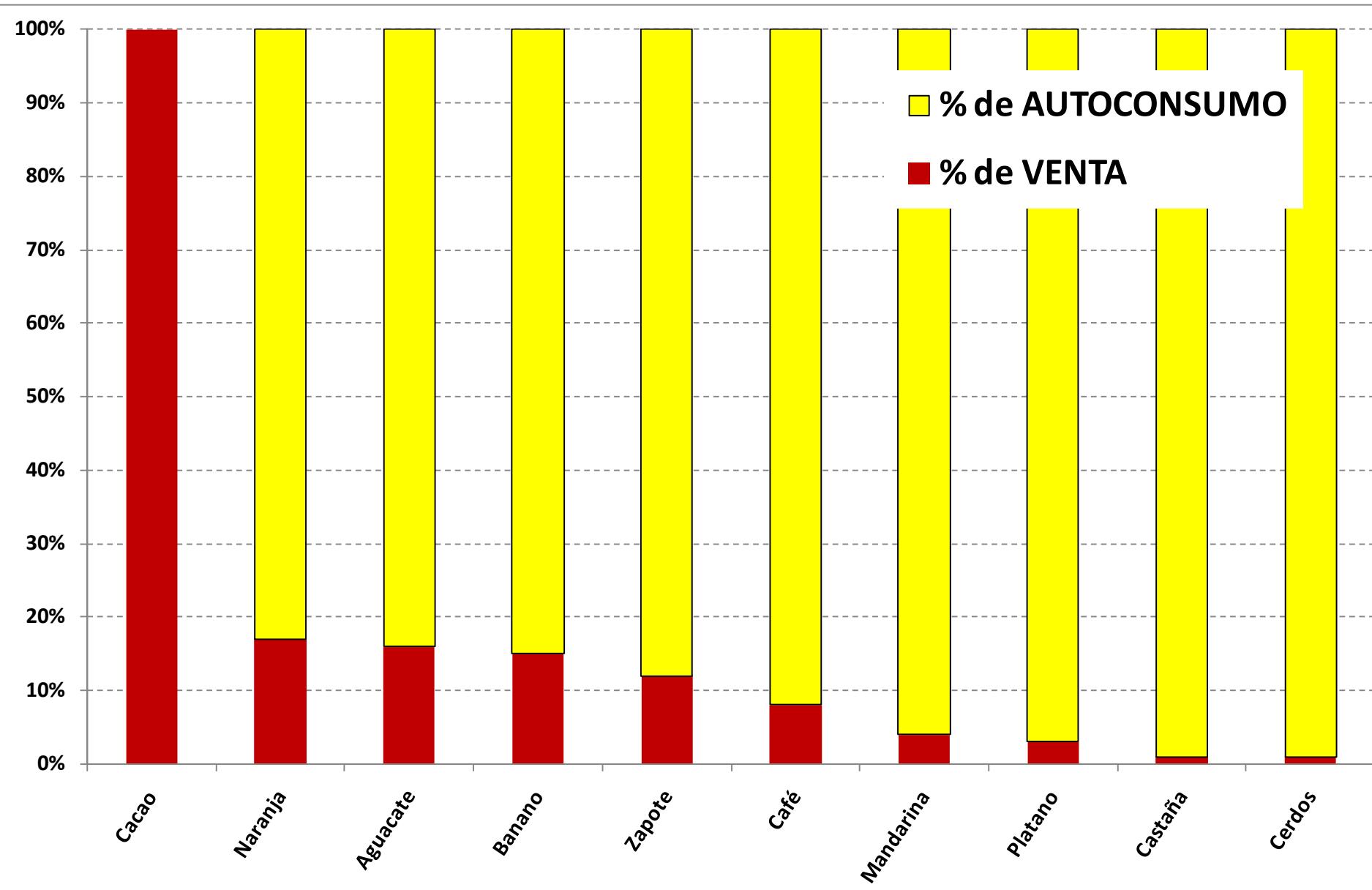




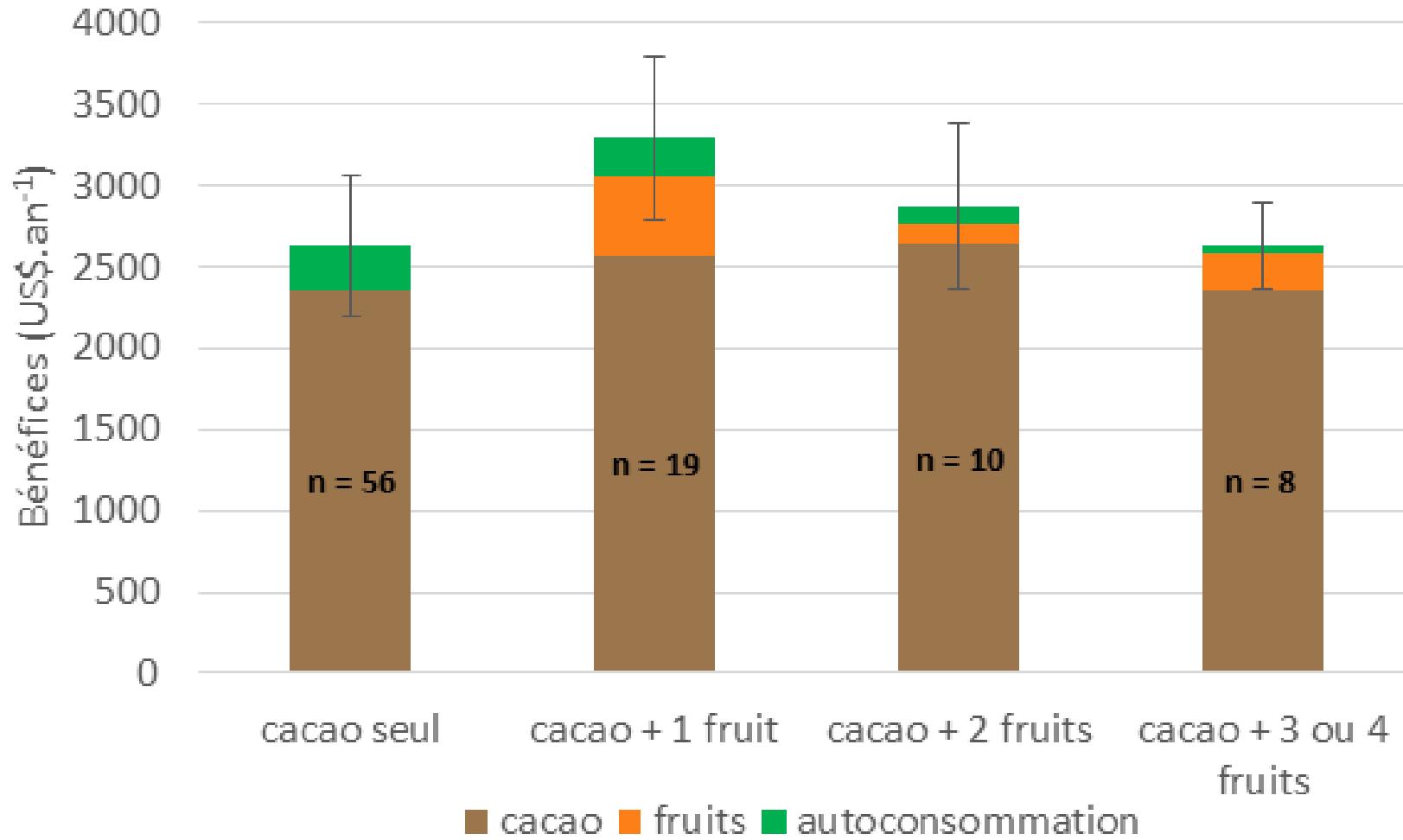
A high diversity that has a purpose

- A participative methodology (Sheil et al., 2003) to identify the uses and to rank them.
- Plants can be classified according to their relative importance for the community of farmers
- Keeping one species or not depends on its functions for the local farmers

The cropping system is self-consumption oriented (only 9 fruit species are sold)



Diversification and farmers' income



Gradient de diversité des SAFc en fonction du nombre de produits commercialisés

COCOA PRODUCING

POTENTIALLY



Ecological intensification: using agro-biodiversity to restore provisioning and regulating ecosystem services

→ The **AGROFORESTRY SYSTEMS** : crops planted in association with trees, on the same plot, in order to obtain products and services useful for mankind (Torquebiau, 2007).

→ A wide range of options, from full sun cocoa to highly diverse agroforests, for a diversity of farmers.

→ Products from the cocoa plots should be linked with markets and food security for the farmer and his/her family

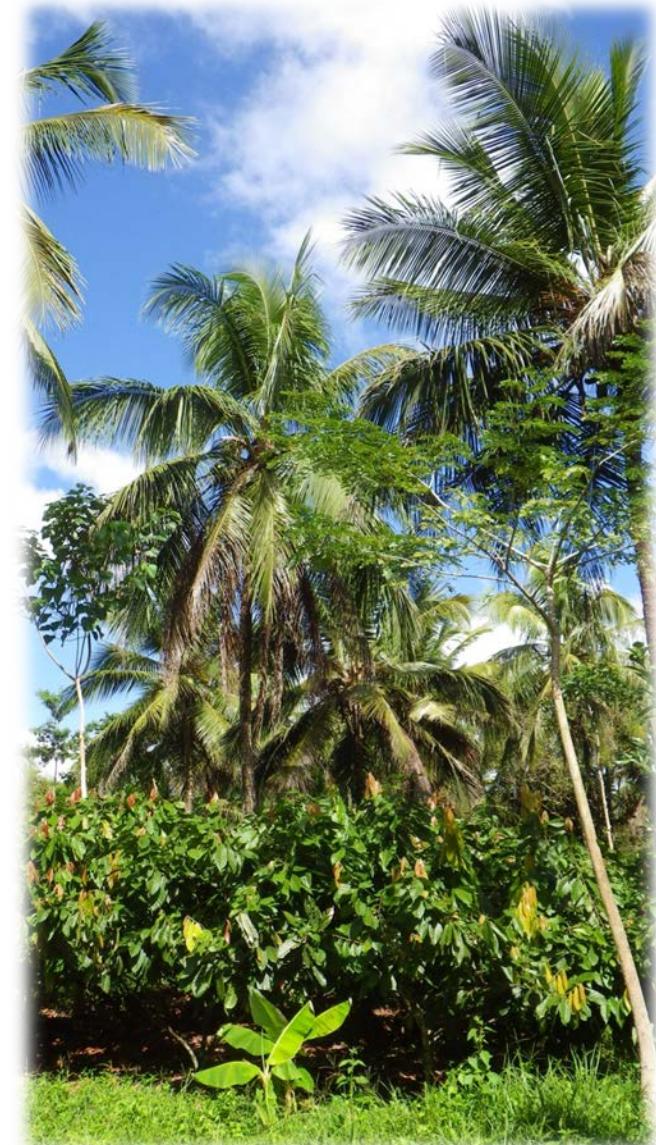


A model for:

- smallholders **strategies**,
- regain **tree cover**,
- CC **mitigation**,
- working in a **wide range of contexts**
- **ecological intensification** of cocoa production

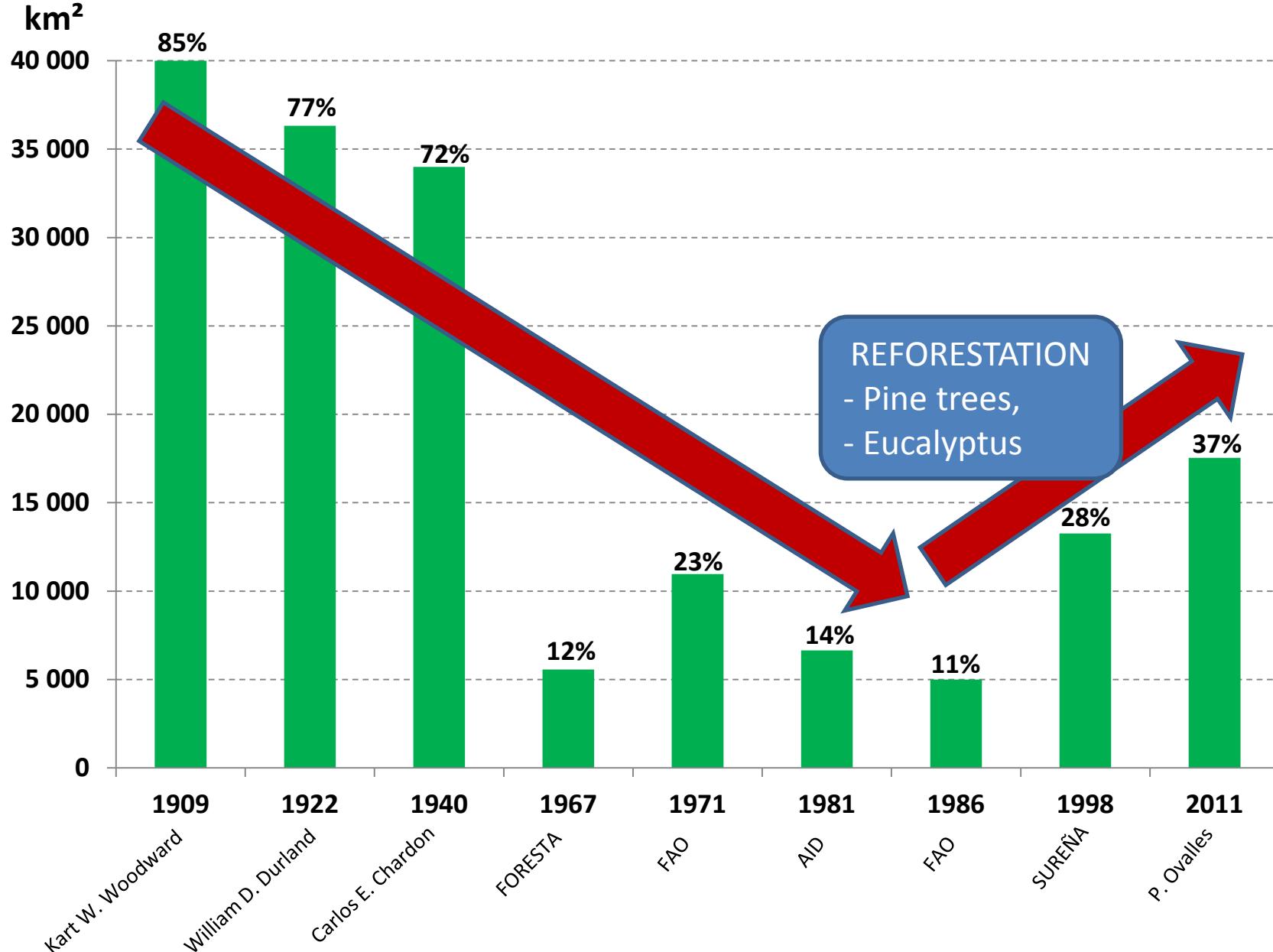


The Cacao Forest Program (Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean)



Thank you!

Evolution of the forest cover in the Dominican Republic



Sources:

Martínez, E. (1990) Los bosques dominicanos; Subsecretaría de Recursos Naturales: Santo Domingo, DO.
Ovalles, P. (2011) Causas de la deforestación y degradación de bosques en la República Dominicana .

Una producción de cacao concentrada (70%) en un trimestre

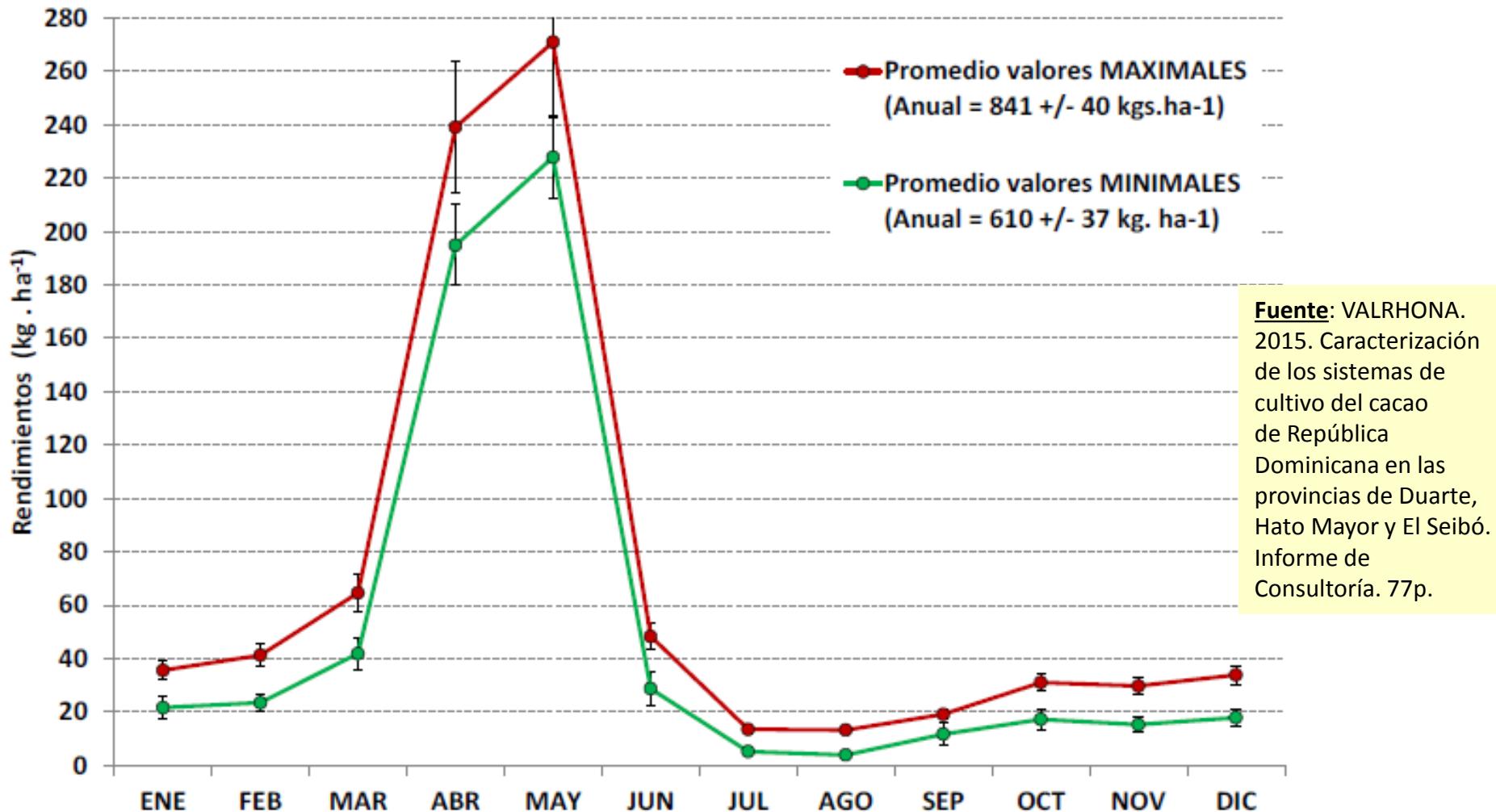


Figura 10. Promedios mínimos y máximos de los rendimientos mensuales y anuales en cacao seco según las declaraciones de 93 productores dominicanos.

Mas del 80% de los cacaotales de tamaño < 2 ha

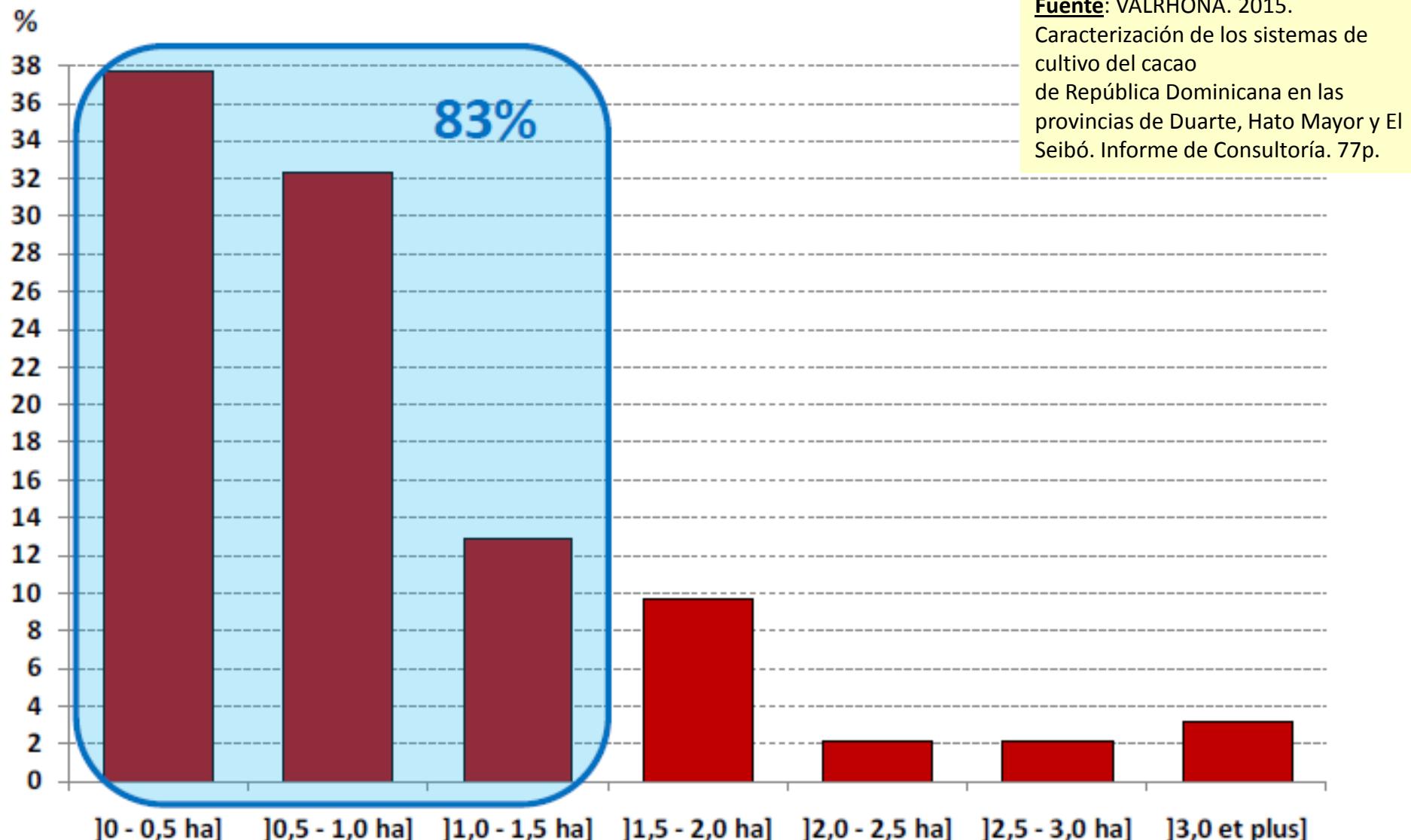


Figura 11. Repartición (%) de los cacaotales de 93 productores dominicanos por clase de superficie (hectáreas) medidas con GPS.

Fuente: VALRHONA. 2015.
Caracterización de los sistemas de
cultivo del cacao
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Sistemas agroforestales dominados por frutales

