

## APPTA

### Costa Rica



<b>NAME</b>	Asociación de Pequeños Productores de Talamanca
<b>FOUNDED</b>	1987
<b>LOCATION</b>	Talamanca, Costa Rica
<b>ENTITY</b>	Cooperative (over 1,000 smallholder families / 23 village groups)
<b>PRODUCTS</b>	Cocoa, bananas, fruits
<b>CERTIFICATES</b>	Organic, Fair Trade
<b>PARTNER SINCE</b>	2005

[www.appta.org](http://www.appta.org)

#### General

APPTA supports more than 1,000 smallholder families from 23 village groups in their daily work. By working together, it has been possible for these farming families to trade successfully on the international market as Fair Trade partners and Organic producers. The drive to continually improve product quality is a joint effort between APPTA and the smallholder families. Particular attention is also given to ensuring that careful use is made of existing resources. The objective being that production should be both sustainable and environmentally-friendly.

#### Support

The Fair Trade premiums that were able to be obtained jointly have enabled a large number of forward-looking projects to be completed. A distance-learning school also allows children from remote areas to receive an education. Meanwhile, a secondary school has also been established in view of the knowledge that education is a central prerequisite for securing the future of young people in the region. An agronomist has also been employed to train farmers how to cultivate their crops successfully without the use of pesticides. A bridge and a truck have made transport from remote regions easier.

#### Direct support from Chocolat Stella Bernrain

Chocolat Stella Bernrain has established a cocoa tree nursery stocked with superior-tasting and disease-resistant cocoa varieties for the cooperative.

«Thanks to Fair Trade, we receive a better price for cocoa. What's more, a small secondary school was also able to be built to give children the opportunity of receiving further school education after they had completed attending primary school.»

**Walter Rodriguez, General Manager**

#### Inside

Our production is based on three pillars: Equity, ecology and quality. Our aim is to improve the quality of life of the population and establish one of the leading Fair Trade production facilities with the help of our committed team. We foster and encourage respect for the environment, for water as a source of life and for cocoa trees as sacred plants.