

COCABO Organic Shade-Cacao Agroforestry — Sustaining Bird Diversity in Bocas del Toro (Panama)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Panama

Quality score: 27/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

A Smithsonian-partnered study of COCABO's organic, fair-trade shade-cacao farms in Bocas del Toro, Panama, recorded 234 landbird species across farms and forest fragments — 86 found only in cacao farms — showing agroforestry sustains substantial bird biodiversity.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	2/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-28

[Cooperativa de Cacao Bocatoreña \(COCABO\), with Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute \(STRI\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-28

[Smithsonian Repository](#) — archived paper — accessed 2026-09-28

[Biodiversity and Conservation \(2007\), Springer](#) — accessed 2026-09-28

[Mongabay](#) — independent coverage (2007) — accessed 2026-09-28

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