

Kuapa Kokoo role cards

Kwaku Owusu. Kuapa Kokoo farmer

As President of the Mim Kuapa Kokoo Village Society you have gone to meet Opanin Gyimah, a cocoa farmer in another village. You want to persuade her to join Kuapa Kokoo because the more farmers involved in the co-operative, the stronger and more effective it will become.

Think closely about the benefits that Kuapa brings and the arguments for and against joining up.

Opanin Gyimah. Non-Kuapa Kokoo farmer

You are a cocoa bean farmer with a small farm. At the moment you, like all the other farmers in your village, sell the beans you produce to a local cocoa buying company. It isn't a co-operative and doesn't adhere to Fairtrade principles. You have heard of the co-operative system and have heard that Kuapa Kokoo is a successful one, but you don't know too much about it. You only know that it costs to join, that they demand high quality cocoa and that not everyone who wants to join can automatically become a member.

The President of the Mim Kuapa Kokoo Village Society has arranged to meet you in order to talk to you about Kuapa Kokoo.

The facilities in your village are poor – there is no clean water supply and the village school is badly equipped. You have also been feeling ill for sometime but can't afford medical bills, nor for people to help you work on the farm. Sometimes you can't afford to buy food at the market, and taking care of the children is very difficult. School fees are expensive, and sometimes your children go to school with no money for the bus fare. You sell quite a lot of cocoa, but the prices are low, and sometimes you don't get paid at all, because the cocoa buyers say they have run out of money. Sometimes people even steal the cocoa!