

Workforce Development to Prepare Rural Communities for Agriculture Sector Foreign Direct Investment



Agriculture is the gateway to rural development

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PEOPLE



NATURE



CLIMATE

ProFarms Gateway (PFG) is an international charitable organization providing regenerative agriculture and climate-smart skills and development training to rural youth and women, with emphasis on alternative livestock feed production, to support workforce development in Ghana.

HANDS-ON DEMONSTRATIONS TO TRANSFORM LIVELIHOODS



(Pictured - USAID's Farmer2Farmer volunteer with WinRock Int'l country manager training youth workers on climate adaptation strategies.)

Our 30-acre demonstration farm provides formalized farmer training that prepares the rural workforce to maximize the benefits of future foreign direct investment partners foreign direct investment pipeline projects. The sustainable training programs will focus on:

- Innovative Primary Production & Harvest/Value-Addition Techniques to Minimize Post Harvest Losses with Agri-tech
- Sanitary & Phytosanitary Standards (SPS)
- International Requirements, Certifications, & Standards
- Agri-ecotourism, Agripreneurship, & Soft Skills Development
- Food Security & Nutrition Diversity
- Local & International Market Identification Strategies

In December 2022, President Biden hosted leaders from across the African continent in Washington, DC for the U.S. -Africa Leaders Summit to demonstrate the United States' enduring commitment to Africa, and to underscore the importance of U.S.-Africa relations and increased cooperation on shared global priorities. As a result, the U.S. has committed \$55B over the next 3 years to advance joint priorities and the African Union's Agenda 2063 to include infrastructure, health, and agriculture development.

Africa's Agricultural Economic Outlook

Agriculture in Africa has a massive social and economic footprint. More than 60% of the population of sub-Saharan Africa are smallholder farmers, and about 23% of sub-Saharan Africa's GDP comes from agriculture.

Key drivers of Africa's agricultural future include:



The rapid population growth on the continent. By 2050 25% of the world's population will be African.



The Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AFCFTA). The Africa free trade zone is the largest in the world.



The rapid economic growth that will generate an ever-increasing number of middle-class consumers who in turn will inspire dietary changes. Africa's population will grow from 1.2 billion in 2020 to 2.4 billion in 2050. The current U.S. population is 333 million.



The women population. Women play a central and critical role in African agriculture with roughly 62% of them involved in producing, processing and marketing food.



The youth population. Today, more than 60% of Africa's population is under the age of 25. By 2030, young Africans are expected to constitute 42% of global youth.



Africa currently a net importer of food. Although the Continent has 60% of the world's uncultivated arable land, African countries still import most of their food. This will change as Africa develops its internal food system.

As we start the post COVID-19 era, in addition to appropriate financing models, the major challenges for the development of agriculture and the agribusiness ecosystems in Africa appear to be climate change, soil health, water for irrigation, biodiversity loss, and adequate farmer training. These issues are likely to present the biggest threats (and opportunities), to agricultural production and agribusinesses. The climate change pressure means that in responding to its agricultural system crisis, Africa must modernize its agriculture in a climate responsive manner.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are seeking partnerships, funding, and resources to support the development of a world-class Agriculture Technology and Aggregation Hub.

In 5 years, the initial site will inspire and formally train 10,000 unemployed rural youth & women, aspiring agripreneurs, and existing agriculture extension agents on how to produce and process high quality foods based on international standards for local and global distribution.



Past Activities

The PFG demonstration farm project recently ended its two-year R&D phase where we:

- Acquired 30 acres of land in the Ashanti region of Ghana
- Conducted project needs assessments and feasibility studies for a fully integrated farming operation with crops, aquaculture (fish) and livestock production
- Established a framework for the demo farm's set-up and operations that can be scaled across Ghana and throughout the continent of Africa
- Engaged local community members and small-holder farmers in different models of agriculture training and skills development techniques using a blended work-based learning/employment model
- Established strategic partnerships with foreign and domestic NGOs, learning institutions and organizations
- Hosted a U.S. based environmental and civil engineering expert to assess and map out the project site in a regenerative and climate-resilient format, paving the way for the project's successful implementation.

KEY MANAGEMENT TEAM

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