IMPLEMENTING PARTNER PROFILES

Agricultural Inputs

Input use by Ugandan farmers is one of the lowest in sub-Saharan Africa, with only 1.5 kilograms of fertilizer being applied per hectare and 7 percent of farmers using improved seed varieties. The Feed the Future Agricultural Inputs activity increases the availability, accessibility, and use of high quality agricultural inputs through improved supply chain management, increased sales and marketing, and decreasing the prevalence of counterfeit products in cooperation with public and private sector partners.

Implementing Partner:
Tetra Tech, Inc.
Dates of implementation:
November 2012 to November 2017
www.tetratech.com

Commodity Production and Marketing

The Feed the Future Commodity Production and Marketing activity improves efficiency in coffee, maize, and bean value chains by increasing crop productivity, increasing the availability and effectiveness of support services, strengthening buyer-seller relationships to facilitate the movement of products and information, and increasing access to competitive markets.

Implementing Partner:
Chemonics International
Dates of implementation:
March 2013 to March 2018
www.chemonics.com

Community Connector

The Community Connector activity seeks to improve nutrition, to achieve sustainable food security, and to increase income by integrating vulnerable households into the market economy and connecting beneficiaries to other service providers.

Implementing Partner:
FHI 360
Dates of implementation:
December 2011 to December 2016
www.fhi360.org

Enabling Environment for Agriculture

The Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Agriculture (EEA) activity assists policymakers to improve the policy, legal, and regulatory framework that affects agricultural production and trade to enable farmers and agribusinesses to do business. EEA also increases policymaker and private sector awareness of and adaptation to the effects of climate change on agriculture. EEA is helping to put in place a reform process that institutionalizes public-private dialogue to prioritize reforms and find solutions to them. Activities result in balanced outcomes that are inclusive of public, private, and civil society interests.

Implementing Partner:
Chemonics International
Dates of implementation:
April 2013 to April 2018
www.chemonics.com

Peace Corps Interagency Food Security Partnership

Peace Corps has approximately 120 Volunteers in service to Uganda, including Education, Health, and Economic Development Volunteers. Volunteers transfer not only technical skills, but can-do attitudes to would-be entrepreneurs and officers of NGOs or cooperatives. Peace Corps Volunteers can be catalysts that help public and private sector commercial enterprises develop and grow, giving lift to local economies and the nation of Uganda.

Implementing Partner:
Peace Corps Uganda
Dates of implementation:
December 2012 to December 2017
www.peacecorps.gov/uganda

Producer Organizations Activity

The Feed the Future Producer Organizations activity assists producer organizations to operate as viable business entities, engaged as buyers of improved inputs and reliable suppliers of high quality coffee, maize, and beans; provide demand-driven services that meet evolving member needs, including more broadly representing the interests and concerns of women and youth; and strengthen the enabling environment for agricultural development through local advocacy.

Implementing Partner:
TechnoServe
Dates of implementation:
October 2015 to October 2018
www.technoserve.org

Purchase for Progress

World Food Programme's Purchase for Progress (P4P) activity is an initiative that assists farmer organizations with production and post-harvest handling of commodities, specifically maize and beans. It provides farmers with training, equipment, and storage options to enable them to increase productivity, improve post-harvest handling, and market their produce.

Implementing Partner:
World Food Programme
Dates of implementation:
September 2012 to December 2016
www.wfp.org/purchase-progress

Youth Leadership for Agriculture

The Feed the Future Youth Leadership for Agriculture activity increases the incomes and improves the skills and competencies of youth working in agricultural value chains. The activity promotes a public private partnership model that develops direct private sector engagement with formal and informal educational structures. The model identifies skills gaps and livelihood opportunities in demand by private sector actors and works to address them though an inclusive and integrative education and training approach.

Implementing Partner:
Chemonics International
Dates of implementation:
July 2015 to July 2020
www.chemonics.com

INNOVATORS

Appropriate Energy Saving Technologies
AEST Ag-Waste Charcoal

AEST (Appropriate Energy Saving Technologies) is a social venture that produces and sells charcoal briquettes from discarded groundnut husks as well as the clean-burning Makaa cookstove.

Betty Ikalany

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www.tewdi.org/aest

Agriworks Uganda
Agriworks Mobile Irrigation System

Existing irrigation options are either too small scale or manual or are expensive and technical for small, commercial farmers in East Africa to use. Our solution combines innovative technology with a unique business model. The technology solves our clients' problems by being mobile (so that more than one user can share the cost of the system), modular (so that users can upgrade their systems as they earn from it), and turn-key (meaning it requires minimal design and technical know how to use). We call our product the Agriworks Mobile Irrigation System (AMIS). It is a complete irrigation system for 1-9 acres that can move on a common motorcycle. This allows them to pay for the equipment from the income they earn from using it. Traditional financing is too difficult for most farmers to obtain loans needed to obtain irrigation, so our hire-purchase process is done in the client's village, using our own field staff, making it easy for a customer to follow through with a hire-purchase application.

Abraham Salomon

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http://agriworks.iconosites.com/

BioLite
The HomeStove

Despite the discomfort and dangers of sustained exposure to smoke, 3 billion people around the world cook on open fires. More than 4 million people die every year because of illnesses due to breathing in smoke. The HomeStove by BioLite offers an alternative, reducing the amount of firewood required by families and cutting toxic pollutants by 95 percent. As an added incentive for potential consumers, the HomeStove uses excess energy produced during the cooking process to power a USB charger for cellphones and other small electrical devices. It is with USAID funding that BioLite proved and honed its business model. It distributed 15,000 HomeStoves and demonstrated strong consumer willingness to pay for the product.

Jan de Graaf

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Eco-Cold Storage Facilities
Zero Energy Cool Chamber
Plastic Insulated Solar Powered Cold Room

Eco-Cold Storage Facilities presents the Zero Energy Cool Chamber (ZECC) and the Plastic Insulated Solar Powered Cold Room. The ZECC is made from inexpensive and readily available materials and has the capacity to maintain temperatures as low as 15°C. The ZECC will be constructed at farms and will be used to temporarily store fruits and vegetables before being collected by market vendors. The second innovation, Solar Powered Cold Rooms, will be constructed in large markets and cities, where market vendors can hire space to store their produce. The Cold Room has the capacity to maintain temperatures as low as 8°C and is capable of keeping fruits and vegetables fresh for extended periods of time.

Hadijah Namtambi

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Eco-Fuel Africa
Eco-Fuel Africa

Micro-franchise model that works with local communities to turn farm waste into clean-burning fuel briquettes. These are 50% cheaper than fuel-wood and burn longer and cleaner.

Sanga Moses

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INNOVATORS

Evidence Action
Chlorine Dispensers

Unsafe drinking water is a leading cause of diarrheal disease, with nearly two billion cases per year. Chlorine can be used to disinfect drinking water and protect it from recontamination. While small packets of chlorine are widely available around the world, usage by the poor has historically been low. Results from a randomized controlled trial in rural Kenya documented that point-of-use chlorine dispensers at communal water sources increased chlorine use more than six-fold compared to the standard model of selling chlorine through retail outlets. With USAID support, Evidence Action scaled dispensers in Kenya, Uganda, and Malawi. The project provided nearly 4.5 million people with access to dispensers over three years. By June 2016, Evidence Action had installed 5,883 dispensers in Uganda, providing access to 1.8 million people in Uganda with an average adoption rate of 65%.

Richard Kibuuka

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www.evidenceaction.org

Fruit-Cycle
Fruit-Cycle

To reduce post-harvest losses in vegetables and fruits, the team has designed a technology called created Fruit-Cycle. Fruit-Cycle is an affordable biogas powered tricycle mounted with a 300kg carrying capacity refrigerated cabin to conveniently and safely transport fresh fruits and vegetable to the market. With this innovation, a farmer can carry 50-300kg of produce and make up to five trips every day to the market within a 10-120km distance. With the ability to offer door-to-door sales, famers can sell directly to the consumer, eliminating middle men while increasing availability and accessibility of fruits and vegetables to consumers at a fair price.

Rachael Aitaru &
Nelson Mandela

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Green Heat
Green Heat

Anaerobic digestion transforms organic wastes into methane and fertilizer, which saves money while improving energy security, air quality, public sanitation, and crop yields. Our innovative slurry-separation system greatly reduces water use, enabling all farmers to enjoy the benefits of digesters, regardless of their water access.

Vianney Tumwesige

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www.greenheatinternational.com

Jali Organic
Jali Organic

Jali Organic is a premium manufacturer of dried fruits and green coffee. Jali's approach is to establish close cooperation with smallholder farmers, add value to fruits by processing them, allow farmers to participate in value creation, open international markets to small holder farmers, and reinvest in local communities to improve livelihoods.

Moses Kibuuka

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m-Omulimisa
m-Omulimisa

m-Omulimisa is a mobile and web-based platform that enables farmers to exchange information with extension officers in their local languages for free. The platform leverages human mediation and text messaging to create a mobile and web-based consultation space. The system leverages the ubiquitous presence of mobile phones to improve farmers' access to extension services as well as improve the efficiency and effectiveness of extension services. Farmers use their phones to ask questions in their local languages and receive feedback from extension officers via text messages. The use of local languages makes the platform highly compatible with Uganda's heterogeneous lingual landscape of over 46 indigenous languages.

Daniel Ninsiima

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www.m-omulimisa.com

Solar Powered Irrigation Pump
Solar Powered Irrigation Pump

For small scale farmers, one of the biggest challenges is the access to low cost technology for transferring water from where it is located to where it is needed. The cost of irrigation pumps currently on the market is prohibitive. The cheapest pumps available cost a minimum of $500, inaccessible to many rural communities in Africa. The team has developed a low-cost solar powered irrigation pump ($200) that is made from locally available scrap materials. The pump has the potential to substantially increase access to low cost solutions for local irrigation and water transfer for other purposes.

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www.ranlab.org/Low%20cost%20Solar%20Irrigation%20Pump

INNOVATORS

Rapid Agricultural Produce Indirect Dryer
Rapid Agricultural Produce Indirect Dryer

Rapid Agricultural Produce Indirect Dryer technology concentrates more solar energy in a controlled environment to markedly increase the efficiency of solar produce-drying at a low cost and minimize post-harvest losses, reduce farm-to-shelf time, and reduce contamination with aflatoxin.

Ssemwanga Mohammed

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www.ranlab.org/Rapid%20Solar%20Dryer

Solar Sister
Solar Sister Entrepreneurs

Solar Sister recruits and trains Solar Sister Entrepreneurs (SSEs) who sell solar lights and mobile phone chargers to provide clean energy services to Africans. Solar Sister is building a market-based distribution system that will achieve financial sustainability within five years at which point the Solar Sister network of empowered women entrepreneurs will continue to provide access to clean energy technologies to households at the base of the pyramid for years to come, reaching 20 million people in 10 years. Target market segments include households, small businesses and farmers, informal sector (street hawkers, vendors, distant rural communities visiting markets for weekly supplies) and institutional sector (health clinics, schools, and places of worship). This system displaces kerosene use and mitigates associated carbon dioxide emissions.

Clare Achola

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Village Energy
Village Energy

Village Energy is boosting access, affordability, and trust in solar in rural East Africa through a last-mile distribution and servicing network. We set up retail locations and train local young men and women as technicians, shop managers and sales agents to sell, install, maintain and fix solar products & installations. Thus we are directly tackling two big areas: rural energy access and training/employment opportunities for rural youth. In particular, we are now focusing on solar for productive use and income generation for businesses and farmers, thus seeing many areas of opportunity in the agricultural space.

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Water Governance Institute
Aquaponics Farming

Water Governance Institute's Aquaponics system integrates fish rearing and horticultural crop farming in a closed-loop water recycling system to provide much needed protein, mineral and vitamin nutritional supplements and alternative incomes to Ugandans living in rural, urban, or peri-urban settings. The all-in-one system uses less water and allows for crop production and fish rearing within limited spaces at home. The Aquaponics system involves a fish-tank and crop grow-beds/trays with a growth medium of husks or sand laid over a silt and stone gravel layers to allow for percolation of water back into the fish-tank. The grow-beds may be situated above or on the sides of the fish-tank. Wastewater from the fish is routinely introduced to the growth medium via the tray/grow-bed(s) through a water-recycling irrigation process. The plants and micro-organisms in the grow-bed break down the fish waste into nitrates and nitrites that are absorbed by the plants, consequently cleaning or sanitizing the water that is returned clean to the fish-tank.

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World Food Programme
Zero Post Harvest Losses Programme

Low cost, hermetically-sealed home silos for grain storage. Farmers are trained in proper handling and storage of maize in household silos and hermetically sealed bags. Accompanying the hardware is capacity building and awareness of market fluctuations and seasonality to help farmers save grain for sale to receive maximum profit.

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http://innovation.wfp.org/project/zero-post-harvest-losses