



Generation Africa Fellowship Program 2025

IMPACT STORIES

Implementation
Partner  Kigali



Launched in 2022, **the Generation Africa Fellowship Program (GAFP) is a six-month journey designed to strengthen youth-led agribusinesses and prepare founders to become leaders in transforming Africa's food systems. The 2025 cohort brings together 20 fellows from 15 countries across the continent.**

Through coaching, mentorship, masterclasses, and ecosystem engagement, the program equips fellows to grow resilient, investment-ready ventures while cultivating the leadership and collaboration skills that power real change. The Impact Stories bring together these journeys – **a collection of achievements, lessons, and milestones from the 2025 fellows. Each story captures not only what the ventures have built and achieved through the program, but also where they're headed next. This booklet is both a reflection and a celebration: of innovation, persistence, and Africa's next generation of agrifood leaders.**

Together, their stories form one shared impact – the story of GAFP in action.

Implementation
Partner



Kigali



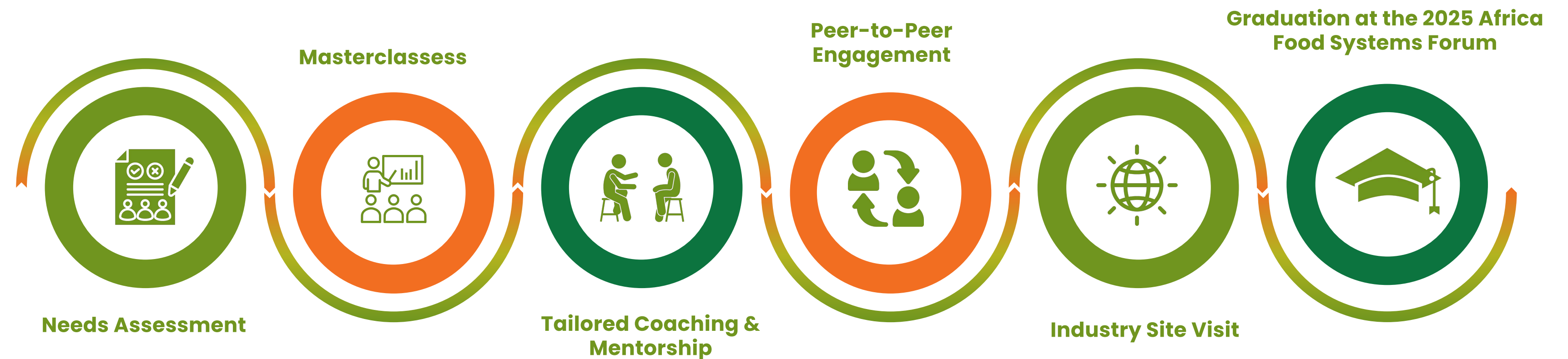
Six months. Six powerful components.

One transformative journey

The program begins with a needs assessment, identifying each fellow's business and personal development goals. Through personalized coaching, fellows receive **20 hours of one-on-one support** from seasoned experts, addressing specific challenges in areas such as leadership, business growth, marketing, product development, investment readiness and financial management.

Complementing this are masterclasses on **Leadership Development** and **Investment Readiness**, peer-to-peer sessions for cross-learning, and industry site visits offering first-hand exposure to successful agribusiness models.

As their journey culminates, fellows take the stage at the **Africa Food Systems Forum (AFSF) 2025** - celebrating their growth, sharing their stories, and stepping into the wider ecosystem as changemakers



April 2025

One-on-one support

October 2025

12

Value chains strengthened

From banana processing and apiculture to hydroponics and circular cosmetics – the ventures transformed local production systems into thriving, sustainable industries.

1,500+

Women farmers empowered

Through training, mentorship, and access to value addition, women farmers moved from producers to processors and business owners.

180,000+
Farmers reached

Smallholder farmers across Africa gained access to markets, training, and digital platforms that improve productivity and income.

9

Digital innovations launched

Ventures introduced IoT tools, fintech apps, traceability platforms, and e-marketplaces driving smarter, more inclusive food systems.

25+

Hectares of land restored

Regenerative and climate-smart farming practices helped revive degraded soils and improve biodiversity.

Over
200 Tons

Banana stems, fruit peels, and organic residues were converted into biofertilizers, packaging, and renewable energy sources.

30%

Collective Waste Reduced / Resources Saved

Collectively, their impact speaks for itself.



Meet The 2025 Fellows
Agripreneurs shaping the next chapter of Africa's food systems.



Bright Nezomba

Founder & CEO at NezoX Brands

“During the program, I’ve learned to think more strategically, communicate our vision with clarity, and empower my team and farmer partners to see themselves as part of a bigger solution.”

📅 2020 📍 Zibambwe ⚙️ Banana Production & Processing 🌐 NezoX Brands



Living the Banana Life | Turning Waste into Value

In Zimbabwe’s Honde Valley, bananas grow in abundance – yet for years, nearly 30% of the harvest went to waste due to poor market access and limited processing options. Determined to turn that challenge into opportunity, Bright Nezomba founded NezoX Brands in 2020.

The venture transforms surplus and damaged bananas into gluten-free banana flour, banana meal, dried banana snacks, and banana peel oil, providing a nutritious, natural alternative to imported flours and processed snacks. By introducing solar-powered drying and processing, NezoX Brands not only reduces post-harvest waste but also creates income opportunities for smallholder farmers, particularly women and youth.

Through the **Generation Africa Fellowship Program (GAFFP)**, Bright refined his business model and marketing strategy, enhanced his export readiness, and strengthened leadership and management systems within his team. Tailored coaching helped him structure operations and financial planning, while market access sessions expanded his visibility across Africa. The program also increased NezoX Brands’ credibility with investors and opened new opportunities for trade partnerships in the region.



Picture 1: Product Showcase

Picture 2: NezoX Brands Team

Impact Snapshot

200+

Farmers Engaged

Provided market access and income stability for smallholder banana producers in Honde Valley.



30% Post-Harvest Loss Reduced

Surplus bananas processed into high-value, shelf-stable products.

46

Jobs Created

40 held by women and youth; driving local employment through agro-processing.



Solar Drying Technology Adopted

Processing powered by off-grid solar drying technology used by 40 women agro-processors.

4

Value-Added Products Developed

Products include gluten-free banana flour, banana meal, dried banana snacks, and banana peel oil

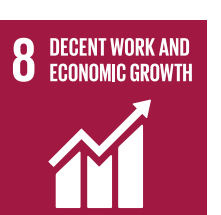


Environmental Impact Award

Recognized by ZimTrade for circular, climate-smart innovation.

Looking Ahead

NezoX Brands is scaling its operations with new milling and slicing equipment, expanding its farmer network to **500+**, and preparing to launch new banana-based products such as **instant porridge** and **banana bread mixes**. With export negotiations underway in **South Africa, Botswana, Zambia,** and the **UK**, the venture is well on its way to becoming a regional leader in sustainable banana processing and value addition.





Bruk Getahun

Founder & CEO at ChipChip

"I've learned the importance of leading by example and the value of building a strong second-line team that can carry forward what we started and help scale the vision sustainably."

📅 2023 📍 Ethiopia 🛠️ AgriTech & Fintech 🌐 ChipChip 📷 chipchip.ethiopia

Impact Snapshot

34,000+

Group Leaders Engaged

Community "captains" aggregating orders and earning income – 48% are women.

210,000

Users (107K Paying)

Proven product-market fit with a growing, loyal user base.

1.8M+

Orders Delivered

Reliable last-mile logistics connecting farmers to consumers nationwide.

3.6M

kg of Produce Moved

Reduced over \$200K in post-harvest losses while increasing farmer margins.

112

Direct Jobs Created (60%+ Women)

Expanding tech and operations teams that drive inclusive growth.

Looking Ahead

ChipChip is now preparing to expand beyond Addis Ababa, reaching **25 million users** with digital wallets, Buy Now Pay Later **BNPL**, and **microloan services** for farmers and families. By 2026, the venture plans to enter East African markets and launch a B2B export platform connecting African producers with regional buyers - building toward a continent-wide network that unites food, finance, and logistics.

Connecting Farmers and Households | The power of aggregation

Across Ethiopia, fragmented food supply chains have long stood between farmers and fair income and between families and affordable food. **ChipChip**, founded in 2023 by Bruk Getahun, is changing that by rebuilding how food moves.

The fintech platform uses group buying to link farmers directly with households, empowering local "community captains" to aggregate grocery orders, source fresh produce, and coordinate delivery at scale.

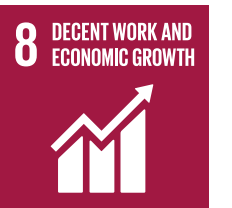
For Bruk, "the first stage of creating a company feels hard, but the real challenge begins afterwards – when you start scaling." That mindset has guided ChipChip's growth from a local idea to a nationwide solution transforming how Ethiopia trades and eats.

Through GAFP, Bruk and his team gained the tools to grow, design a new product, focus on premium offerings and optimize its digital platform. "We received deep analysis and guidance on our revenue model, which helped us refine our monetization strategy and shape a clear path for scaling sustainably," he says. **Beyond coaching, GAFP offered a network of African peers and investors who helped sharpen execution and build investor confidence.**



Picture 1: chip chip team

Picture 2: Farmers using the platform





Mochesane Mpali

Founder & CEO at Lema Agrivest

“I’ve learned that communication is key – whether with investors, suppliers, or employees. GAFFP helped me systemize our operations and lead with more clarity and focus.”

📅 2021 📍 Lesotho 🏡 AgriTech & Hydroponics 🌐 lema.agrivest



Rethinking Agriculture | Growing More with Less

In Lesotho, **smallholder farmers often face the same uphill battle – high input costs, limited arable land, and weak market access that make farming a struggle instead of a livelihood.** Founded in 2021 by Mochesane Mpali, Lema Agrivest is tackling those challenges through hydroponics systems designed for smallholders.

The venture trains farmers to grow fresh produce year-round using 90% less water, integrating solar-powered systems, AI monitoring, and local spice production to create a self-sustaining model that generates income and green skills. For Mochesane, GAFFP was a turning point.

The tailored coaching provided not just mentorship but practical, actionable guidance that transformed how the company operates. **Through GAFFP, Lema Agrivest refined its operational systems – now running systematically, developed a marketing and sales plan, and improved investor communication. The exposure to peers and alumni also strengthened the venture’s network, reinforcing its confidence to scale regionally.**



Impact Snapshot

2,658

Farmers Reached

Trained and supported through affordable hydroponic systems and mentorship.

Tea & Spice Production Launched

New revenue streams from herbs grown by trained farmers.

90%

Less Water Used

Precision hydroponics reduces input costs and environmental pressure.

Solar-Powered Systems Deployed

Promoting climate-smart agriculture and energy independence.

87

Jobs Created (14 Direct, 73 Indirect)

Employment through system installations and value-chain expansion.

Looking Ahead

Lema Agrivest is now preparing to **open its first regional office in South Africa** and expand its hydroponics network across Southern Africa. The next phase focuses on **training more farmers in climate-smart agriculture**, improving local spice and tea production, and partnering with investors to bring modern farming closer to communities that need it most.

- 2 ZERO HUNGER
- 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
- 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
- 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
- 13 CLIMATE ACTION



Akpem Terese Shadrach

Founder & CEO at Vet Konect

“GAFFP reminded me that we are serving people whose livelihoods depend on us succeeding. That sense of responsibility drives me to give my best every single day.”

📅 2022 📍 Nigeria ⚙️ AgriTech & Animal Health 🌐 vetkonect.com

Reimagining Livestock Farming | Smart, Accessible, and Inclusive

Across Nigeria and much of Africa, livestock farmers lose millions every year to preventable animal diseases and limited veterinary access. Founded in 2022 by Akpem Terese Shadrach, **Vet Konect is closing that gap through a mobile and AI-powered platform that connects farmers to qualified animal-health professionals, quality inputs, and real-time disease alerts.**

Through mobile connectivity and artificial intelligence, Vet Konect delivers on-demand veterinary advice, early-warning data, and e-commerce access for animal-health products transforming how livestock owners manage herds and livelihoods.

The(GAFFP) played a defining role in this growth. **Akpem credits the practical masterclasses and personalized coaching for sharpening both leadership and business development skills.** “The coaching gave me fresh perspectives and the boldness to drive our vision,” he says. The peer-to-peer learning and the opportunity to share Vet Konect’s journey at the Africa Food Systems Forum further strengthened his confidence that Africa’s animal-health innovation carries continental relevance.



Picture 1 : vetkonect team

Picture 2 : vetkonect Champions

Impact Snapshot

150,000

Animal Owners Reached

Accessing quality veterinary care, diagnostics, and inputs.

3,000

Vet Konect’s network is creating visibility and income for animal-health workers.

7,600

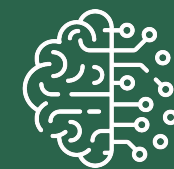
Farmers Trained

Building local knowledge in livestock management and disease prevention.

450

Vet Konect Champions

Students and practitioners leading awareness in 14 veterinary institutions.



Early Warning System Launched

USSD and AI tools reaching smallholders with disease alerts.

Looking Ahead

Vet Konect aims to reach **300,000 animal owners** by 2026 and **onboard 5,000 animal-health professionals.** The next phase focuses on building financial and insurance partnerships to make animal-health services more affordable and resilient – turning what began as a local tech idea into a continental animal-care movement.





Riantsoa Mialinarindra

Founder & CEO at Sakafu Madagascar

“There is always something to learn from everyone. Every exchange - with coaches, fellows, or partners - has helped us grow as a business and as leaders.”

📅 2023 📍 Madagascar 🏭 Agri-Processing & Circular Economy 🌐 vetkonec.com

Good Food for Good | Building a Fair and Circular Food System



In Madagascar, small-scale farmers lose much of their harvest to poor processing infrastructure, while local markets offer low-quality, imported and unaffordable foods. Founded in 2023 by **Riantsoa Mialinarindra**, **Sakafu Madagascar** is reimagining how food is made and valued – processing locally sourced fruits and vegetables into healthy, traceable, and affordable products for consumers.

Sakafu is more than a processing factory – it’s a **sustainable ecosystem** built on fairness and circularity. **The venture partners with farmers, guarantees fair pricing, and transforms production waste into biofertilizers and bioenergy to power its facility and lower emissions.**

Through GAFFP, Riantsoa and her team gained hands-on coaching and tackled real business challenges, from financial management to investment readiness. “The program gave us actionable tools, not just theory,” she says. “We worked with our coaches to solve our immediate challenges and learned to implement big changes while keeping operations running smoothly.”

Attending the Africa Food Systems Forum was another milestone – a chance to connect with global partners and explore collaborations to support farmers with training, seed access, and crop disease research.



Impact Snapshot

200+

Farmers Impacted (70% Women)

Supported through fair sourcing, training, and market access.

50

Tons of Fruits Processed

Turning local produce into nutritious, traceable foods for Malagasy consumers.

2,000+

Frequent Consumers

Building trust in local, healthy products across communities.

50+

Stores & Supermarkets

Products now competing with imported goods on national shelves.

40

Increase in Farmer Revenue

Stable off-take agreements improving rural incomes.



Circular Production Model

Factory waste converted into biofertilizers and biogas for energy efficiency.

🚀 Looking Ahead

Sakafu Madagascar is finalizing its new **500kg/hour** processing line, launching a nationwide marketing campaign to challenge low-quality imports, and installing a biodigester system to power the factory with renewable energy. The team’s next focus is scaling partnerships that bring even more value to smallholder farmers proving that sustainable, high-quality food made in Madagascar can compete with the world’s best.





Royford Mutegi

Founder & CEO at Vermi-Farm Initiative

“The Generation Africa Fellowship Program helped us turn intention into execution... We refined our business and revenue model into a clear, farmer-centred plan that links soil health products with a basic-phone financial wallet.”

📅 2021 📍 Kenya 🧰 Regenerative Agriculture & Fintech for Farmers

🌐 📱 Vermi-Farm Initiative

Impact Snapshot

12,500

Farmers Reached (78% Women)

Across 8 Kenyan counties, increasing incomes and soil recovery.

190

tonnes produced in 2025

Scaling sustainable vermicompost that restores soil health and boosts farmer productivity across the region

🚀 Looking Ahead

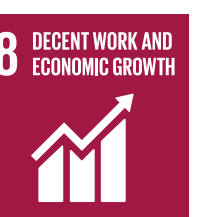
Vermi-Farm is expanding its wallet services to new counties, increasing fertilizer production, and refining its climate payout system for faster recovery after shocks. With stronger governance and investor partnerships ahead, the venture continues to build a system where healthy soils and stable incomes grow together.

Changing Agriculture, One Regenerative Farm at a Time

In Kenya’s rural heartlands, smallholder farmers face the constant threat of climate shocks, income loss, and degraded soils. Founded in 2021 by Royford Mutegi, **Vermi-Farm** is helping them build resilience by pairing regenerative organic fertilizers with a basic-phone wallet for savings, lending, payments, and weather-linked payouts.

Through GAFFP, Royford and his team received tailored coaching that turned intention into execution. “With ten hours of one-to-one coaching from Caroline Numuhire at Impact Hub, we refined our business and revenue model into a clear, farmer-centred plan that links soil health products with a basic-phone financial wallet,” he says.

Exposure at the Africa Food Systems Forum in Dakar and an industry visit to Bayer Itaba strengthened their investor readiness and operational discipline - improving product traceability, quality control, and leadership systems that now guide Vermi-Farm’s growth.





Kidist Amedie

Founder & CEO at Guaro Farms

“The program challenged me to lead in complex, uncertain environments and navigate policy barriers.”

- 📅 2023
- 📍 Ethiopia
- 🏭 Agro-Processing & Decentralized Manufacturing
- 🌐 guaro-farms.com
- 📱 Guaro Farms



Decentralizing Agro-Processing | One Micro-Factory at a Time

In Ethiopia, smallholder farmers often lose income to post-harvest spoilage and lack of processing infrastructure. Founded in 2023 by Kidist Amedie, Guaro Farms is changing that by bringing manufacturing directly to the farm gate.

The venture designs and operates decentralized micro-factories - 20-foot shipping containers retrofitted into fully functional production units that process spices and herbs into essential oils where crops are grown. Each unit creates local jobs, reduces waste, and preserves biodiversity by turning rural produce into export-ready value.

Through GAFP, Kidist collaborated with coaches and mentors to lead a resilient and sustainable venture. GAFP’s tailored support helped Guaro Farms work toward product certification standards, build connections with fellow agripreneurs in similar industries, and strengthen operational systems to scale the model sustainably.



Pictures : Guaro Farms Team

Impact Snapshot

340

Rural Jobs Created

Empowering rural youth and women through decentralized manufacturing.



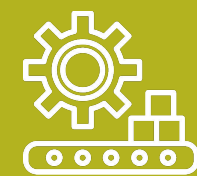
Biodiversity Protection

Processing near farms reduces waste and preserves natural ecosystems.



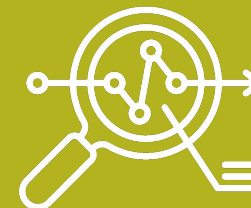
Increased Farmer Incomes

Local value addition raises farm-gate prices for herbs and spices.



Micro-Factories in 20-Foot Containers

Portable, efficient processing units run remotely by Guaro’s team.



Digital ERP & Traceability Tools

Standardizing operations for transparency and export certification.

Looking Ahead

Guaro Farms is now standardizing its micro-factory model and integrating digital ERP and traceability tools to monitor production remotely. As the venture expands into new regions, it aims to position decentralized agro-processing as a blueprint for inclusive industrialization in rural Africa – where innovation starts at the farm gate.





Irene Simon Ivambi

Founder & CEO at Mrembo Naturals Limited

“The biggest lesson I learned during the GAFFP program is the importance of building strong systems and leadership structures to ensure sustainable growth. Passion and vision alone are not enough – clear processes and capable teams drive long-term success.”

📅 2021 📍 Tanzania 🛠️ Organic Cosmetics & Women’s Empowerment

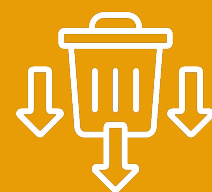
🌐 mrembonaturals.com 📷 📘 🌐 mrembonaturals

Impact Snapshot

1500+

Women Farmers Empowered

Trained in organic farming and connected to reliable buyers.



Agricultural Waste Reduced

Value addition from farm produce to natural oils and butters.

90%

Raw Materials Produced In-House

Reducing dependence on imports through local sourcing.



Traceable Supply Chain Built

From farmer to finished product, ensuring quality and transparency.



Expanded Market Reach

Supplying local and export markets, including Zimbabwe.

Looking Ahead

Mrembo Naturals is installing four new distillation machines near its partner farms to enable on-site processing and reduce post-harvest losses. The expansion will create 40 additional jobs and boost local oil extraction capacity – bringing Irene closer to her goal of a self-sustaining, women-led cosmetic supply chain that champions Africa’s natural beauty from farm to face.

Women Building a Sustainable Beauty Supply Chain

In Tanzania’s rural communities, women farmers grow lemongrass, baobab, ginger, and mango – yet often struggle to earn a fair income. Founded in 2021 by Irene Simon Ivambi, Mrembo Naturals empowers these farmers through organic farming training, fair trade sourcing, and local processing of natural oils and butters for the cosmetics industry.

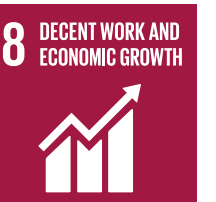
By creating a fully traceable, local value chain, Mrembo Naturals reduces waste, replaces imported ingredients with homegrown alternatives, and builds a regenerative economy that benefits both people and the planet.

Through the GAFFP, Irene strengthened her business strategy, leadership, and financial management. “The program has greatly supported Mrembo Naturals by strengthening our business strategy, sustainability model, and leadership capacity,” she says. **Coaching sessions helped her install systems for delegation, accountability, and performance tracking, making the business more structured and efficient.**

Attending the Africa Food Systems Forum and industry visits in Zambia gave Irene practical insights into large-scale production, while GAFFP’s networking support connected her with investors currently in due diligence - evidence of a growing, investable business with social impact at its core.



Pictures : MREMBO Naturals Teams





Sokayna Bellam

Founder & CEO at Jodoor Greentech

“The biggest lesson I learned during the program is that collaboration and storytelling are as powerful as innovation itself. Building a successful agribusiness goes beyond technology – it’s about connecting with people and staying adaptable through every challenge.”

📅 2022 📍 Morocco 🛠️ Climate-Smart Agriculture & Hydroponics

🌐 jodoor.com 🌐 Jodoor

Impact Snapshot

90%

Less Water Used

Adaptive hydroponics ensuring food security under climate stress.

12x

Higher Yields

Continuous leafy-green production, free from pesticides.

50

Jobs Created (80% Women)

Empowering women and youth in sustainable farming

200k

USD Revenue (2024)

Growing commercial success with 17% profit margin.



Technical Training for Young Farmers

Building skills in hydroponic operation and maintenance.

🔭 Looking Ahead

Jodoor is scaling production to full capacity, expanding into herbs and essential oils, and preparing for **GlobalG.A.P.** and **ISO 22000 certifications**. The team plans to export 20% of its output to Europe and the Middle East, roll out eco-friendly packaging, and replicate its model across Africa – proving that climate adaptation and opportunity can grow side by side.

Adapt. Grow. Sustain.

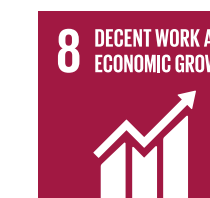
As climate stress intensifies across Africa, farmers are struggling to grow food under rising temperatures and shrinking water supplies.

Founded in 2022 by Sokayna Bellam, Jodoor is proving that climate adaptation is possible. **The company designs adaptive hydroponic systems that use up to 90% less water, require no soil, and enable year-round production of leafy greens – even in extreme conditions.**

With **12x** higher yields than conventional farming, Jodoor’s solution is creating a blueprint for sustainable, efficient, and climate-smart agriculture in Morocco.

Through GAFFP, Sokayna received tailored technical assistance that sharpened Jodoor’s agronomic model and technology roadmap, as well as coaching to become investment ready. *“The investment readiness sessions were a real turning point – they strengthened our pitching, financial storytelling, and confidence in front of investors,”* she says.

Jodoor’s exposure at the Africa Food Systems Forum in Dakar expanded its global visibility and connections with investors, agripreneurs, and development partners shaping Africa’s food future.





Deborah Nzarubara

Founder & CEO at GRECOM (Green Community Mind)

“Our businesses in Africa shouldn’t only seek profit – they must also create value and serve our communities. This program reminded me that impact, not language or borders, defines entrepreneurship.”

📅 2020 📍 DRC 🛠️ Apiculture & AgriTech 🌐 grecom-rdc.com 📱 GRECOM

Impact Snapshot

2,300

Beekeepers Supported

Structured and registered through the Nyuki Tech platform and ApiCards.

20%

Income Growth for Producers

Achieved through better traceability and market access.

12

Direct Jobs (5 Women)

Plus 33 indirect jobs across logistics and cooperative management.

10

Hectares of Land Restored

Regenerative beekeeping contributing to reforestation and biodiversity.



Nyuki Tech Innovation

Combining GSM and IoT tools for traceability and real-time climate data.

🚀 Looking Ahead

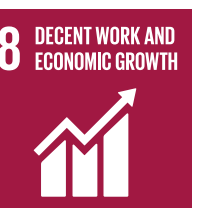
GRECOM plans to expand Nyuki Tech across the Great Lakes region to reach 20,000 users by 2027, while establishing a modern honey-processing facility and a laboratory for product testing and export certification. The company is also developing new units to process honey derivatives – including mead, beeswax cosmetics, propolis, and pollen – positioning DRC as a regional leader in sustainable, traceable honey production.

By Nature, for Nature’ through sustainable, traceable honey.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, beekeeping has long been a source of livelihood yet weak coordination, poor traceability, and climate disruptions have held the sector back. Founded in 2020 by Deborah Nzarubara, **GRECOM (Green Community Mind)** is transforming apiculture through Nyuki Tech, a digital platform adapted for small producers with or without internet access.

Using simple GSM technology, Nyuki Tech provides technical guidance, production tips, and weather alerts directly to farmers’ phones. Each beekeeper is registered with an “ApiCard”, which ensures traceability and identification of honey products, while IoT sensors placed in hives transmit real-time data on temperature and humidity – helping producers anticipate climate shifts.

“The program gave me personalized, high-quality support that helped me identify my strengths and address gaps in logistics, leadership, and fundraising,” Deborah says. Through GAFFP, she gained the confidence to organize her operations, inspire her team, and strengthen GRECOM’s leadership culture. Meeting her peers and mentors in person was, she recalls, “a powerful reminder of how connection fuels motivation and growth.”





Marlène Kindji

Founder & CEO at Badémè Natural Foods

“To succeed as an entrepreneur, you must know your strengths and weaknesses, leverage your advantages, and keep learning from the ideas and experiences of others.”

📅 2019 📍 Benin 🏭 Food Processing & Local Products 📷📘🌐 bademenaturalfoods



The Taste of Home, Anywhere You Go.

For many Africans living abroad, the taste of home often feels far away. Founded in 2019 by Marlène Kindji, **Badémè Natural Foods bridges that gap by offering 100% natural, ready-to-use African vegetables – dehydrated leafy greens for the diaspora and precooked vegetables for local households.**

Each product preserves authentic flavor and nutrition while extending shelf life and reducing post-harvest waste. By working directly with smallholder farmers, Badémè Natural Foods not only brings convenience to consumers but also ensures fair income and recognition for local producers.

Through GAFP, Marlène strengthened her business management and production systems, learning how to structure operations and improve her value chain. “The program helped us refine our management and development skills and expand our professional network internationally,” she says. The experience also gave her access to new perspectives, collaborations, and partnerships with fellow African entrepreneurs.



Impact Snapshot

50

Farmers Engaged

Local vegetable producers benefiting from fair partnerships.

12

Tons of Vegetables Processed Annually

5,000+

Consumers Reached

African households and diaspora connected to local flavors.

12

Direct Jobs Created (8 Women)

Promoting gender inclusion and youth employment.

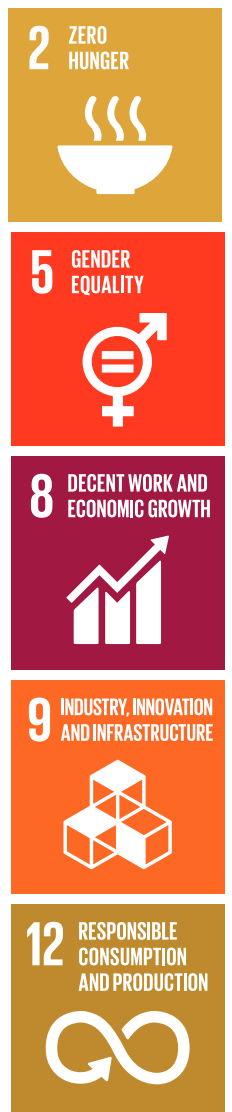
100%

Natural Products

Healthy, preservative-free food promoting local nutrition.

Looking Ahead

Badémè Natural Foods plans to build an internationally certified production unit, open its capital to new investors, and introduce food trucks that bring African cuisine closer to urban consumers. With every packet of greens, Badémè reminds the world that African food is not just delicious – **it’s sustainable, modern, and proudly local.**





Salimata Toh

Founder & CEO at AGRIBANANA

“The program taught me the importance of understanding every part of my business. I no longer delegate without knowing the details - leadership means learning, guiding, and growing alongside your team.”

📅 2021 📍 Ivory Coast 🏭 Circular Economy & Green Manufacturing
 🌐 agribanana.net 📱 agribanana

Impact Snapshot

10,000+

Banana Trunks Recycled

Converted into biodegradable packaging and natural fibers.



Forest Preservation

Providing an alternative to wood, reducing deforestation.

15

Direct Jobs Created (4 Women)

Empowering youth and women in green manufacturing.



Patented Innovation Registered (OAPI)

Validating AGRIBANANA's eco-friendly transformation process.

5

Farmers & 1 Women's Cooperative Engaged

Agricultural waste turned into income-generating resources.

Looking Ahead

AGRIBANANA plans to expand production capacity with new machines, grow its farmer network, and enter national and regional markets. **The company is also preparing to install a modern factory and strengthen its technical and commercial teams — paving the way for a future where Africa leads the global shift from disposable to sustainable.**

From Disposable to Sustainable.

As Africa's leading producer and exporter of dessert bananas, Côte d'Ivoire generates a large amount of unused banana biomass waste. In addition, the country faces challenges such as deforestation, plastic pollution, and climate degradation.

Founded in 2021 by Salimata Toh, **AGRIBANANA transforms banana agricultural waste into 100% biodegradable and recyclable packaging and eco-friendly natural fibers used in textiles, crafts, and the hair industry.**

The banana plant — fast-growing and locally abundant — offers a renewable alternative to wood and petroleum-based materials. AGRIBANANA's patented innovation not only reduces waste but also supports farmers with a second source of income from what was once discarded.

Through GAFFP, Salimata gained essential business and leadership tools, and financial modelling awareness. *“Thanks to my coaches, I learned to be more proactive, to master my cost structure, and to design a fundraising strategy,”* she says. **The fellowship also strengthened her confidence to manage operations more closely and build a structured, motivated team ready for growth.**



Pictures : Agribanana Team





Elhadji Malick Sagne

Founder & CEO at Cactus Innovation

“Through this program, I learned to be versatile – balancing business strategy with capacity building, and turning ideas into sustainable, measurable impact.”

📅 2021 📍 Senegal 🌱 Green Innovation & Climate Resilience 📱 Cactus Innovation

The Green Solution for a Resilient Future.

In Senegal’s arid zones, farmers face depleted soils, water scarcity, and food insecurity made worse by climate change.

Founded in 2021 by Elhadji Malick Sagne, Cactus Innovation is turning these challenges into an opportunity, using the cactus as a multifunctional resource to build a sustainable and autonomous agricultural model adapted to arid zones. **The venture promotes climate-resilient farming, renewable energy, and agro-processing, transforming cactus into food products such as juices, jams, and syrups while restoring degraded soils.**

The venture’s circular system reduces dependence on chemical fertilizers and fossil fuels, creating both environmental and social impact. Through GAFP, Elhadji refined his pitch deck and growth strategy, strengthened his leadership, and developed a clearer vision for scale. “A project always needs the right strategic guidance to move forward,” he says. The coaching further strengthened the venture’s financial management and data driven financial decision making across its integrated production systems.

Participation in the Africa Food Systems Forum in Dakar was a milestone – a moment to showcase Senegalese innovation and connect with a network of African entrepreneurs driving change.



Pictures : Cactus innovation

Impact Snapshot

15

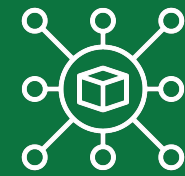
Hectares of Land Restored

Reviving degraded soils through cactus-based reforestation.



Intelligent Biodigester Installed

Promoting energy autonomy through renewable systems.



Cactus Products Developed

Juices, syrups, and jams supporting food security and local markets.



Food Security Enhanced

Supporting local communities to adapt and thrive despite climate stress.

120+

Women & Youth Trained

Building climate-resilient livelihoods in rural areas.

Looking Ahead

Cactus Innovation aims to expand production capacity, scale cactus cultivation, and diversify agro-processing to reach new markets across Senegal and West Africa. The next phase includes acquiring modern processing equipment and strengthening energy autonomy – ensuring that innovation and resilience take root in even the driest soils..





Mbumba Lapaque

Founder & CEO at Antarctik

“Beyond innovation, a strong business model, clear communication, and the right network of mentors and partners are what turn ideas into lasting impact.”

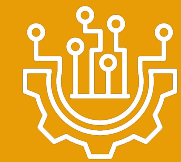
📅 2019 📍 DRC ⚙️ AgriTech, Traceability & Digital Inclusion
 🌐 antarctik.net 🌐 Antarctik

Impact Snapshot

10,206

Farmers Integrated (70% Women)

Across 50+ cooperatives using Mukulima tools.



CivicTech-AgriTech Integration

Combining AI, e-commerce, and investment access.

3

Mini Agri Labs Installed

Offering local crop diagnostics and soil testing.



Sustainability Compliance

Supporting zero-deforestation cocoa production.



Secure Cocoa Traceability System

Preventing illegal trade and protecting farmer income.

🚀 Looking Ahead

Antarctik is scaling Mukulima Track to register 240,000 cocoa farmers with secure digital profiles linked to verified sales - ensuring transparency, ethical sourcing, and global competitiveness for Congolese agriculture.

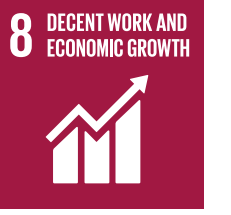
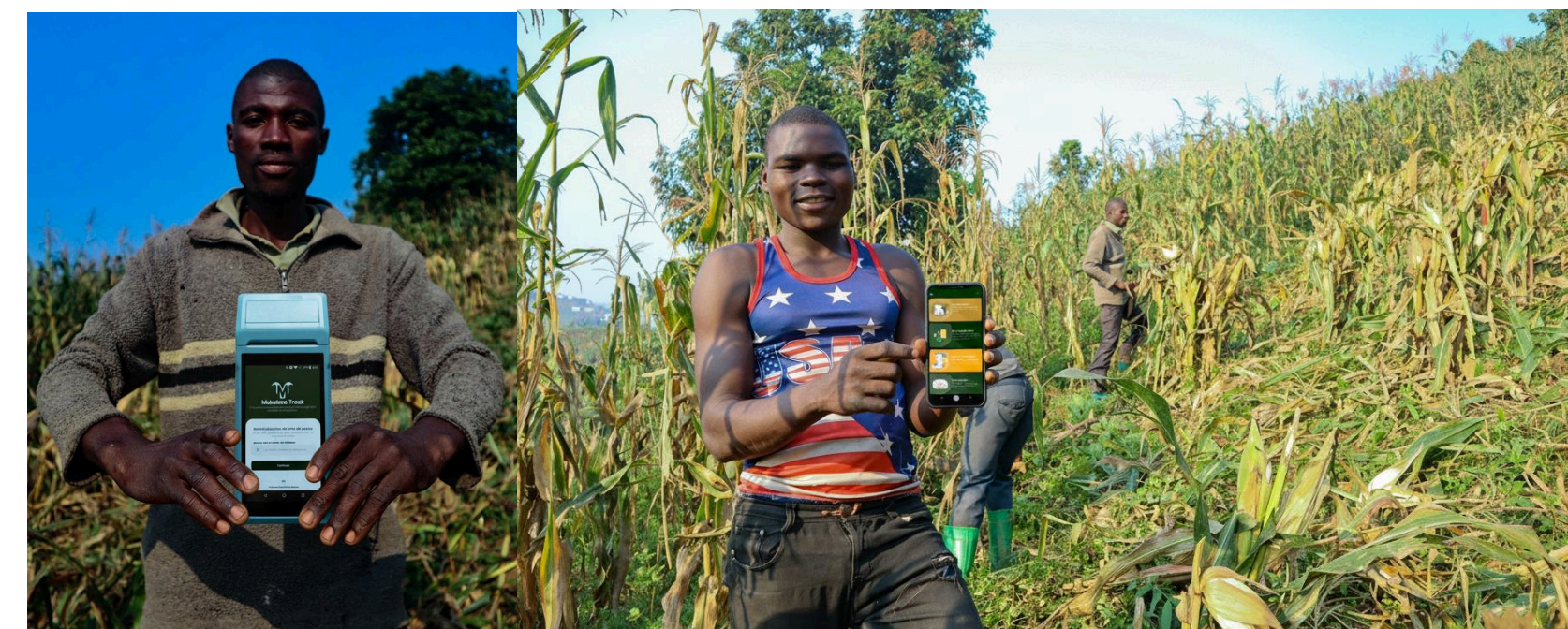
Scaling Agri-Innovation, Strengthening Local Communities.

In the DRC, smallholder farmers face erratic rainfall, low yields, and unfair markets – challenges that threaten both livelihoods and sustainability. Founded in 2019 by **Mbumba Lapaque**, **Antarctik** is supporting farmers through Mukulima, a holistic digital platform at the crossroads of **CivicTech and AgriTech**, designed to modernize agriculture and protect farmers' incomes.

Mukulima integrates four key tools:

- **Mukulima Lab** – AI-powered learning for crop diagnostics and input guidance.
- **Mukulima Soko** – a digital marketplace linking producers and buyers.
- **Mukulima Invest** – connects cooperatives with citizen investors.
- **Mukulima Track** – ensures crop traceability and compliance in the cocoa value chain.

Through GAFFP, Lapaque refined **Antarctik's financial model and growth plan**, strengthened investor communication, and gained valuable mentorship. “We learned that strategic structure and strong partnerships turn innovation into real, scalable impact,” Lapaque says.





Arristine Mendes

Founder & CEO at SHADDAÏ Aquaculture

“My biggest lesson during this program was realizing that I can’t do everything on my own. I’ve learned to trust my team, delegate more, and focus on the strategic areas that only I can handle.”

📅 2023 📍 Senegal 🔄 Circular Aquaculture & Sustainable Feed 🌐 📷 Shaddaï Aquaculture

Sustainable Aquaculture, Affordable Nutrition

In Senegal, the price of fish – a key source of protein – has multiplied tenfold over the past decade. Ocean stocks are collapsing, imports are expensive, and local fish farmers struggle to produce enough due to the high cost of feed, which makes up over 70% of their expenses.

Founded in 2023 by Arristine Mendes, SHADDAÏ Aquaculture tackles this crisis by producing sustainable, locally made fish feed. **The company upcycles organic waste – from slaughterhouses, fisheries, poultry farms, and invasive plants – into high-protein, digestible feed that costs up to 40% less than imported products.** Using a proprietary lysis technology, the startup eliminates dependence on imported fishmeal while maintaining high nutritional performance – making aquaculture more profitable and accessible for Senegalese farmers.

Through GAFP, Arristine learned to think and lead strategically. “Generation Africa helped me embrace my leadership responsibilities despite my young age. It also taught me to diversify our revenue streams,” she says. **The fellowship’s coaching and industrial visits gave her the confidence to expand beyond fish feed into poultry and dairy feed – and to plan SHADDAÏ’s regional scale-up across West Africa.**



Impact Snapshot

20

Tons of Waste Upcycled Monthly

Turning organic waste into sustainable fish feed.

10

Tons of Fish Produced Monthly

Affordable, high-quality protein reaching local families, with each ton of feed nourishing up to 50 people.

30

Fish Farmers Supported

Soon expanding through a national agency partnership.

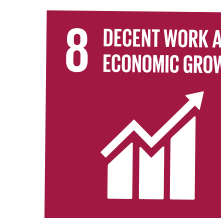
40%

Cheaper Feed

Cutting production costs and boosting local profitability.

🔭 Looking Ahead

SHADDAÏ Aquaculture is scaling production to make sustainable feed accessible nationwide and, within three years, across West Africa. With new product lines for poultry and dairy and a growing network of farmers, the company is proving that Africa’s food security can be rebuilt through innovation, circularity, and trust in local resources.





Iddi Mohammed Faried

Founder & CEO at Kodu Technology

“The program helped refine our model and strengthen our market approach. It was inspiring to share our story with peers building real solutions for Africa’s sustainability challenges.”

📅 2022 📍 Ghana 🔄 Circular Economy & Women’s Health 🌐 kodutechnology.com



Ending Period Poverty, Sustainably

In Ghana, thousands of women and girls still face **period poverty**, while plastic pollution from disposable pads worsens environmental degradation. Founded in 2022 by Iddi Mohammed Faried, Kodu Technology is tackling both challenges through innovation.

The company transforms **banana and plantain waste** into **eco-friendly, high-performance sanitary pads** that are **FDA-certified, 60% cheaper** than imported brands, and boast a **7-hour absorption efficiency**. By sourcing fiber from smallholder farmers across Northern Ghana, Kodu is reducing waste, supporting rural livelihoods, and advancing menstrual health with dignity and sustainability at the center.

Through GAFP, Iddi gained access to **investor networks, tailored mentorship**, and strategic guidance to refine his **business model and fundraising approach**. “The biggest lesson was the importance of building strong partnerships early. Collaboration and shared learning often open more doors than funding alone,” he says. The fellowship strengthened his leadership, helping him delegate, build his team, and communicate Kodu’s vision more effectively to partners and investors.



Impact Snapshot

3000

Farmers Reached

Supplying banana and plantain fiber waste for pad production.

45,000

Pads Sold

Affordable, eco-friendly pads improving menstrual health access.



Zero-Waste Model

Transforming agricultural waste into biodegradable hygiene products.

5

Menstrual Hygiene Banks Established

3,200+ pads donated to schools, prisons, and rural communities.



Produced under FDA-aligned safety and regulatory requirements

High absorption, sustainable, and 60% cheaper than imports.

Looking Ahead

Kodu Technology plans to **scale production from 45,000 to 250,000 pads annually**, expand distribution across all 16 regions of Ghana, and launch a **digital menstrual health platform** for education and access. The company also aims to onboard **10,000 new farmers** for fiber sourcing and pursue **regional FDA certification** to bring sustainable menstrual health solutions to women across West Africa.



Fatima El Khou

Founder & CEO at JAFIFE

“The fellowship helped me structure JAFIFE for scale - from strengthening partnerships to preparing the venture for investment and regional growth.”

📅 2023 📍 Morocco 🛠️ Agri-Processing & Circular Food Systems

🌐 jafife.ma

Building a Circular Agri-Food Value Chain

Across Morocco and much of Africa, agricultural value chains lose up to 30% of harvested produce due to perishability, limited processing infrastructure, and weak coordination between farms and markets. These losses reduce farmer incomes, increase food costs, and place unnecessary pressure on energy and natural resources.

Founded in 2023 by Fatima El Khou Jafife, JAFIFE addresses this challenge through a solar-powered, AI-enabled agri-food platform that links production, processing, and market access. Using AI-assisted solar drying technology, the venture transforms fresh produce into traceable, market-ready ingredients while reducing energy use by up to 60%. By connecting farm and factory data, JAFIFE cuts food waste by up to 30% and supports a more efficient, circular agri-food system.

Through GAFP, Fatima strengthened JAFIFE’s business structure and investment readiness. Targeted coaching and masterclasses helped refine the growth strategy, clarify the venture’s value proposition, and prepare for partnerships and investor engagement.



Impact Snapshot

1,000+

Farmers Integrated

Improved market access and reduced post-harvest losses

500+

Cooperatives Onboarded

Representing more than 25,000 people across the value chain

45%

Increase in Farmers’ Income

Driven by value addition and improved processing efficiency

2,000+

Hours Saved Annually for Women

Enabled through decentralized, solar-powered processing

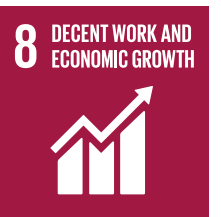
250+

Farmers Linked to Agribusiness Markets

With enhanced traceability and supply-chain transparency

🚀 Looking Ahead

JAFIFE plans to expand its platform to reach **15,000 farmers** over the next two years, establish regional partnerships in **Egypt, Senegal, and Ivory Coast**, and raise **\$1 million** to scale its circular, low-carbon agri-food model.





Charles Oyamo

Founder at Rethread Africa

“You don’t need to have everything figured out. The real unlock was staying open to learning and unlearning – testing assumptions fast, letting go of elegant but impractical ideas, and iterating toward what customers actually value.”

📅 2023 📍 Kenya 🧩 Food Safety & Biotech Innovation

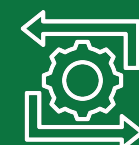


Impact Snapshot



Market Actors Engaged

Traders, millers, and households co-designing usability and workflow.



Strategic Pivot Completed

Shifted from biomaterials R&D to a low-literacy aflatoxin strip built for informal markets.



TRL4–6 Prototype Validated

Benchtop testing with University of Nairobi and field-validation protocol ready.



Human-Centered Design Embedded

Icon-only instructions and 3-minute test workflow finalized.



Investor Readiness Enhanced

Data room, pilot plan, and governance docs assembled for co-funders.

Looking Ahead

In the final phase of the fellowship, Charles will select the most promising concept and, with continued coaching support, develop a full business plan and execution roadmap, laying the foundation for future testing, partnerships, and scale.

Rethinking the Path | Designing for What Can Scale

Across East Africa, food safety and nutrition challenges continue to affect public health, farmer incomes, and trust in local food systems. Founded in 2023, Rethread Africa began with a product concept aimed at addressing these gaps, but early exploration revealed high production costs, weak market demand, and limited commercial viability – prompting a strategic pivot.

Through GAFFP, Charles used the program as a structured space to reassess his approach. With coaching support, he explored and tested three potential venture pathways: SokoSafe, focused on affordable aflatoxin testing and grain quality; LisheBora, centered on industrial-scale food fortification through contract manufacturing; and Posho Network, an early-stage concept still under consideration.

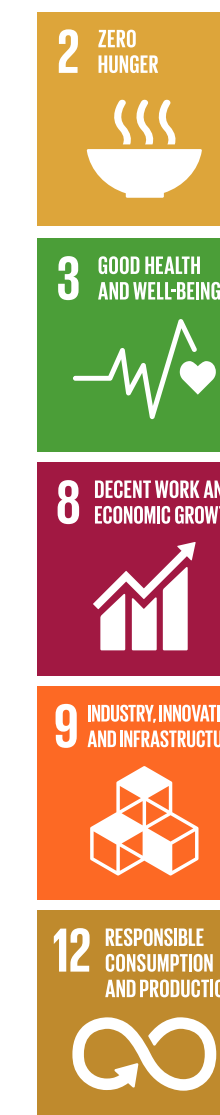
Two of these ideas – **SokoSafe** and **LisheBora** – were analyzed in depth, assessing market demand, cost structures, regulatory conditions, and feasibility. This process shifted the venture toward a market-led, evidence-driven direction, prioritizing solutions with stronger potential for adoption and scale.

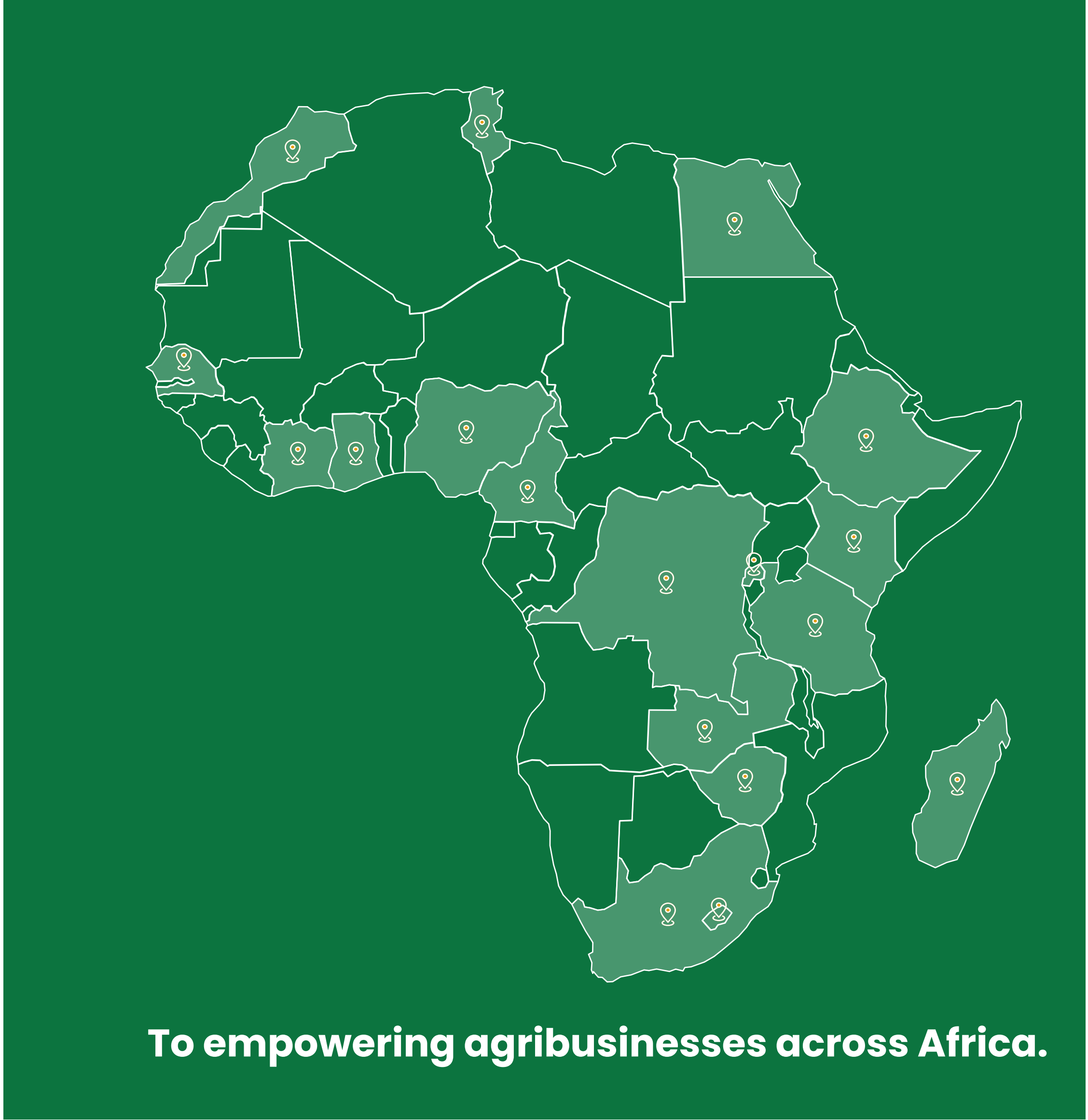
Rather than rushing into execution, the fellowship supported a deliberate, informed pivot, strengthening Charles’ strategic decision-making and laying the groundwork for the next phase of venture development.



Picture 1: RethreadTeam

Picture 2: Bayer industry site visit





To empowering agribusinesses across Africa.



AGRA



GENERATION
AFRICA



IMPACT
HUB Kigali



Beyond the Fellowship

The program's legacy is forward-looking, carried by ventures building what Africa's food systems will become.