

# **2025** **STRATEGIC IMPACT** **REPORT:** Advancing Resilient and Inclusive Food Systems



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Advancing Resilient and Inclusive Food Systems



## Dear Partners and Stakeholders,

2025 was a year of purposeful action and measurable progress in strengthening Africa's food and nutrition systems. Together, we engaged leaders, empowered communities, and advanced innovations shaping a more resilient and inclusive agricultural future.

Our work reached thousands of farmers, women, youth, and technical actors across multiple value chains, translating strategies into tangible on-the-ground impact. Across initiatives, we demonstrated how evidence-driven interventions, collaboration, and capacity-building can deliver sustainable results.

This report highlights the milestones and partnerships that defined our journey, showcasing how we strengthened food systems while elevating knowledge and visibility across the sector.

# Strategic Convenings Driving Policy and Collaboration

## 18 Leaders. One Shared Agenda.

We started the year with a high-level convening of senior partners across funding and development landscape, diplomatic community, and the private sector to advance sustainable funding models, strengthen collaboration across Nigeria's food systems.



## 700+ Voices. One National Conversation.

The Sahel Food Systems Changemakers Conference brought together 700+ in-person and 58 virtual participants, cementing its status as one of Nigeria's leading platforms for advancing policy coherence, fostering purposeful engagement, and driving innovation in food systems transformation.



Physical Attendees



Virtual Attendees

### Media Impact

Immersive media workshop for 10 Journalists

Nine media mentions for the conference

### Partners



## Women in Agriculture Leadership Initiative

We launched this initiative with 11 women in agribusiness, agritech, and food systems participating in a catalytic leadership journey. The sessions addressed gaps in training, mentorship, networks, and visibility, while building a scalable blueprint for women's leadership in agriculture.

### Key Achievements

- ◆ Strengthened leadership & strategic communication
- ◆ Field practical at Loom Craft Chocolate Factory
- ◆ Enhanced digital fluency & financial literacy
- ◆ Deepened understanding of GDEI in agriculture
- ◆ Increased visibility & professional networking
- ◆ Real-world networking immersion at SeedConnect Africa Conference



### Shaping Tomorrow's Agri-Leaders

We designed this initiative to equip young people with practical skills, professional exposure, and workplace readiness for the agricultural and development sectors.

### 2025 Highlights & Impact

Engaged in real project implementation through field visits

Enhanced sector skills and motivated technical career pursuit

**10** Senior professionals mentored the interns

**33%** Increase in employment rate among the interns

**44%** Improvement in job readiness of interns

# Empowering Africa's Youth to Lead Food Systems Transformation



Launched in 2017, the initiative empowers young African changemakers through knowledge and collaboration.

In 2025, alongside Sahel Capital and African Food Changemakers, we hosted a pan-African scholars' conference with 500+ students and experts exploring trends and opportunities in agriculture. Students across African universities presented campus-based solutions to food security. We funded the top three solutions, equipping these young, passionate students with the resources, guidance, and technical expertise needed to bring their ideas to life.

## Student-led Innovations



Safiyanu Al'amin Gadagau (Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria) developed **Nutri-Sac ABU**, using recycled materials and compost for low-cost vertical farming.



Kenry Ayobami Adaolowo (University of Ibadan, Nigeria) implemented **GreenCycle**, converting livestock and poultry waste into affordable organic fertilizers.



Kabaramiira Yampa Syson (Rwentanga Farm Institute, Uganda) built **Yampa Quality Fresh Drinks**, producing natural fruit juices from surplus fruits.



## Strengthening Women's Livelihoods in Plateau State, Nigeria

In collaboration with partners, we addressed socio-economic and conflict-related challenges among pastoralist and crop-farming communities. Through the SPRiNG Project, we empowered 431 women beneficiaries and established 6 women-led cooperatives, delivering targeted trainings in conflict resolution, nutrition, and income-generation to empower communities and foster peacebuilding.

 **412**

Trained in group dynamics, conflict resolution, nutrition, financial inclusion and practical skills

 **6**

Trained vegetable demo plots for spinach, okra, carrot, tomatoes, and onions

 **100**

Trees planted across Bokkos, Barkin Ladi, Bassa LGAs

 **431**

Beneficiaries trained in organic pesticides

 **431**

Trained in petroleum jelly & liquid soap production

# Strengthening Market Systems & Agricultural Value Chains



## Five Years of Delivering Impact in the Dairy Sector Through the ALDDN Programme

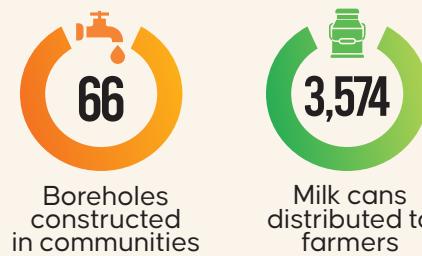


As the Advancing Local Dairy Development in Nigeria (ALDDN) programme wraps up its five-year journey since 2020, it has strengthened Nigeria's dairy sector by formalising the value chain, empowering smallholder farmers, improving infrastructure and milk offtake by processors, and strengthening the policy environment, leaving a resilient and locally driven dairy ecosystem.

### Smallholder Integration

22,681 Dairy households reached	63,261 Dairy farmers enrolled
234 Dairy cooperatives	2,663 Self-help groups formed (1,088 women-led)

### Infrastructure & Equipment



### Fodder Production & Milk Offtake

<b>4,315.7 hectares</b> cultivated for fodder	<b>2,708.44 MT</b> feed/fodder produced	<b>14.37 million litres</b> of milk aggregated by processors across 7 states	<b>4 million USD</b> earned by dairy farmers via processors' milk offtake
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### Animal Health & Productivity Improvement

	<b>83,963</b> cows serviced
	<b>731</b> pregnancies confirmed via AI
	<b>135</b> crossbred calves delivered

### Capacity Building & Nutrition Education

	<b>61,374</b> farmers trained on good dairy practices
	<b>103,613</b> beneficiaries trained on dietary diversity and hygiene



### Policy & Advocacy

ALDDN facilitated 22 industry and policy engagements, including the National Dairy Policy Validation, Gender Policy Review, and the Nigeria Feed & Fodder Partners Roundtable, strengthening collaboration, policy alignment, and visibility across the dairy sector.

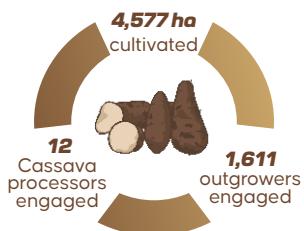
We collaborated with dairy processors (Arla,

Integrated Dairies Ltd, L&Z Integrated Farms, Naturell, Sebore Farms, SAJ Foods), the government via the Federal Ministries of Agriculture and Food Security, Livestock Development and Industry Trade and Investment, State Ministries of Agriculture and other key partners in the sector.



## Transformed Nigeria's Cassava Seed System Via the BASICS-II Project

We concluded the Building an Economically Sustainable Integrated Cassava Seed System, Phase II (BASICS-II) project, delivering technical and business advisory support, alongside the lead implementer, the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), to improve farmers and processors' access to quality cassava stems and strengthen the commercial viability of Nigeria's cassava seed system.



<b>51%</b> Increase in cassava processing throughput at processors' factories	<b>100%</b> Increase in outgrowers' income	<b>20 t/ha</b> Average yield achieved in cassava fields
<b>304,920</b> Bundles of quality cassava stems produced	<b>1,027</b> Cassava seed entrepreneurs trained across 5 states in Nigeria	<b>72</b> Demo trials established to promote new varieties



## Turning National Priorities into Measurable Actions

We supported the Agribusiness and Productivity Enhancement Project Management Office (AgPE-PMO) to accelerate delivery on **24 priority projects (16 national, 8 state-level)**, strengthening coordination among federal MDAs, state governments, development partners, and private-sector actors.

### Key Achievements

Strengthened coordination & accelerated programme delivery within the office of the Vice President of Nigeria.

Positioned the project management office as a credible partner translating national priorities into actionable, bankable interventions.





## ***Delivered Quality Seed Adoption and Productivity Via CSP***

We played a central implementation and coordination role in the Collaborative Seed Programme (CSP), a four-year initiative financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands under the Nigeria-Netherlands Seed Partnership to advance the National Seed Road Map (NSRM) of Nigeria.

Our efforts focused on improving farmers' access to and use of quality seed of new, improved varieties to sustainably increase agricultural productivity, working closely with Nigerian and Dutch public and private seed sector actors. The programme successfully concluded in 2025, delivering measurable sector impact.

## **Achievements**

### ***Seed Quality Assurance & Traceability***

- 51 Licensed Seed Inspectors trained and deployed across Nigeria
- Seed Tracker system expanded to rice, maize, and potato for improved traceability

### ***Farmer Training & Capacity Building***

- 350+ farmers trained in tomato and cabbage production
- Training manuals integrated into the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria agricultural curriculum

### ***Sector Coordination & Learning***

- National Seed Road Map (NSRM) dashboard developed for real-time roadmap tracking
- 17 webinars & learning events organised to facilitate a national dialogue

### ***Seed Company Development & Market Access***

- 9 local seed companies engaged; 5 Dutch distributor linkages established
- 146 demonstration plots created, showcasing 57 improved varieties - Over 27,000 farmers reached, including women and youth

### ***Donor Alignment & Policy Impact***

- 16 donor interventions mapped for better alignment
- Shortened variety release timelines, improving market responsiveness

**COLLABORATIVE  
SEED PROGRAMME**  
Nigeria-Netherlands



# Strengthening Market Systems & Agricultural Value Chains



## Building Agricultural System Resilience in Nigeria Project

### ***Building Early Warning Systems for Agricultural Resilience***

Through the Building Agricultural Systems Resilience in Nigeria Project, we made substantial progress in strengthening Nigeria's climate resilience architecture by improving climate data infrastructure, expanding climate information services, reinforcing community level structures, and enhancing national coordination mechanisms.

#### ***Key Achievements***



6 Automated Weather Stations (AWS) installed; real-time data integrated into Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet)



International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) Maproom launched in Nigeria; 100+ stakeholders trained



Climate services integrated into agricultural extension curricula in Nigeria



National Framework for Climate Services Advanced (NFCS)

### ***Leading the Digital Leap in Agricultural Advisory Services in Nigeria***

We played a key role in designing, coordinating, and engaging stakeholders for Nigeria's first AI-enabled national digital agricultural advisory platform, laying the foundation for a scalable, inclusive, and sustainable agricultural extension system.

#### ***Key Achievement***



Established a strong evidence base and stakeholder consensus for a national PPP digital extension system.



Successfully transitioned from landscape analysis to platform planning.



Built a credible multi-stakeholder consortium with defined technical, legal, and institutional roles.



Positioned the initiative for investment readiness, pilot implementation, and eventual scale across Nigeria.

# Strengthening Market Systems & Agricultural Value Chains



## Equipping Institutions to Drive Agriculture and Food Systems Change

We strengthened the capacity of key Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), academia, legislative bodies and other vital stakeholders under the Transformation of Agriculture and Food Systems (TAFS) Cluster of the Global Programme on Sustainable Agricultural Systems and Policies (AgSys) of GIZ. The workshops were aimed at advancing agriculture, food & nutrition systems transformation at national and sub-national levels.



### Key Achievements



115 federal MDA participants equipped with systems thinking and collaborative planning skills



240 sub-national stakeholders engaged, strengthening state ownership



Tools & frameworks localised for practical application at the state level



Train-the-Trainer approach developed champions for sustained impact



Built foundations for locally driven, sustainable agriculture, food & nutrition transformation

## Strategic Communications & Engagement

**30k+**

followers across our social media platforms

**30**

thought leadership publications delivered, spanning research and analytical articles, and Sahel Frontier editions.

**113**

attendees reached through LinkedIn Live events

**30**

strategic convenings organised influencing policies, partnerships, and public dialogues on food systems transformation.



As we move into 2026, we look forward to strengthening existing relationships, building new partnerships and scaling successful models to ensure resilient, inclusive and thriving agriculture and nutrition systems across Africa.

**Scan to see our  
programs and impact**



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