

# **Developing and Expanding Community Enterprises**

### Creating Pathways to Prosperity for Underserved Communities in Africa

The U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) is an independent U.S. government agency established by Congress to invest in African grassroots organizations, entrepreneurs and small-and medium-sized enterprises. USADF's investments promote local economic development by increasing incomes, revenues and jobs. Utilizing a community-led development approach, USADF provides seed capital and local project management assistance to African-owned and led enterprises addressing some of Africa's biggest challenges around food insecurity, insufficient energy access, and unemployment, particularly among women and youth. Over the last five years, throughout Africa, with an emphasis on the Horn, Sahel and Great Lakes regions, USADF has invested more than \$115 million dollars directly into over 1000 African-owned and operated entities and impacted over four million lives.





124 / 115K
Enterprises / People Impacted

**\$9.8**Million

\*FY 2010 to FY 2019











Investing in Communities

Growing Enterprises

Increasing Incomes

Building Capacity

### **INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES**

**Challenge:** Agriculture & Infrastructure Investment Company (AIIC) lacked working capital to purchase rice seeds from farmers, contributing to the lack of sustainable incomes for farmers.

**Action**: USADF invested US\$97,962 in AIIC, modernizing its infrastructure and equipment, as well as providing technical assistance and administrative support.

**Results**: With USADF's investment, AllC trained over 500 farmers and created a revolving fund to enable farmers to sell their paddy rice and increase their farming capacity. To date, over 1,000 farmers have increased their farm size to an average of 5 acres, and AllC's revenue has increased from US\$97,200 at baseline to US\$ 655,118 at the end of year 1.

### **GROWING ENTERPRISES**

**Challenge:** The Meinpea Mah Rural Women for Development (MMRWD) experienced limited production activities due to the lack of processing facilities and technical skills.

**Action**: USADF invested US\$89,626 in MMRWD to build a warehouse for paddy rice storage and procure a power tiller and processing equipment.

**Result:** With USADF's investment, MMRWD now supplies processed rice to 31 schools and has significantly increased its revenue. MMRWD's memberships increased from 1,216 to 2,100.

### **INCREASING INCOMES**

**Challenge:** Liberia Business Incubator (LBI), a cassava producing group comprised of mostly women, lacked access to sufficient inputs and an adequate processing facility.

**Action**: USADF awarded LBI US\$99,169 for equipment, local project management and infrastructure support, and business advisory assistance to improve operations.

**Results**: With USADF's investment, LBI scaled-up its cassava production from 12 hectares to 54 hectares, increased yield per area cultivated by ~100%, and increased revenue by over 110%. Additionally, 1,265 women farmers' incomes increased by over 100%.

### **BUILDING CAPACITY**

**Challenge:** Practical Agriculture for Sustainable Development (PASUD) is a youth organization involved in vegetable production. Due to a lack of access to capital, inputs, education, and practical technical skills among farmers, PASUD was unable to meet its production and revenue goals.

**Action**: USADF awarded US\$25,000 in seed capital, agro-inputs, local project management, transport supports, and business advisory to modernize the corporation's business operations.

**Results**: With USADF's investment, PASUD procured improved seeds, fertilizers, and other agrochemicals, which enabled it to establish and scale-up vegetable production. Farm yields per area cultivated improved by 100% and sales revenues by 110%, while income accruing to PASUD increased by about 125%.





# **USADF Liberia Investments in 2019**

USADF invests directly in African community enterprises providing grant capital and local technical support to early stage businesses.

### **AGRIBUSINESS**

Agriculture & Infrastructure Investment Company (AIIC)

\$97,962 • 2 years Rice

#### **Darbodakei Farmers Cooperative**

\$91,034 • 2 years Peanuts

#### **FABRAR Liberia Incorporated**

\$244,492 • 3 years Rice

### Francis Lewis Cooperative Vegetable Farmers

\$69,070 • 2 years Vegetables

### Gbelay-Geh Rural Women Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd.

\$152,723 • 3 years Cassava

### Korkarleh Assistance Program Cooperative Society

\$88,245 • 2 years Cassava

#### Liberia Business Incubator (LBI)

\$99,169 • 2 years Cassava

### Meinpea Mah Rural Women & Men for Development (MMRWD)

\$89,626 • 2 years Rice

### Selma Agriculture Development Corporation

\$245,191 • 3 years Rice

### **Tuenpkan Farmers Cooperative**

\$97,766 • 2 years Cocoa

### **OFF-GRID ENERGY**

Liberia Engineering & Geo-tech Consultants Limited

> \$150,000 • 2 years Solar

### **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

## Practical Agriculture For Sustainable Development (PASUD)

(PASUD Vegetable Project) \$25,000 • 1 year Vegetables°

