

Delivering the African Green Revolution through Enhanced ICT4Ag Solutions

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The Green Revolution Agenda

African governments have increased their investments in Agriculture and are involving the private sector and donor organizations.

Agriculture - Main industry in Sub Saharan Africa

- Employing 65% of the labor force
- Accounting for 1/3 of the GDP

Small holder Farmers

- Provide 80% of the food supply in Africa
- Small scale holdings of less than 2 hectares

Gender

- About 70% of small holders in Africa are women.

Outcomes

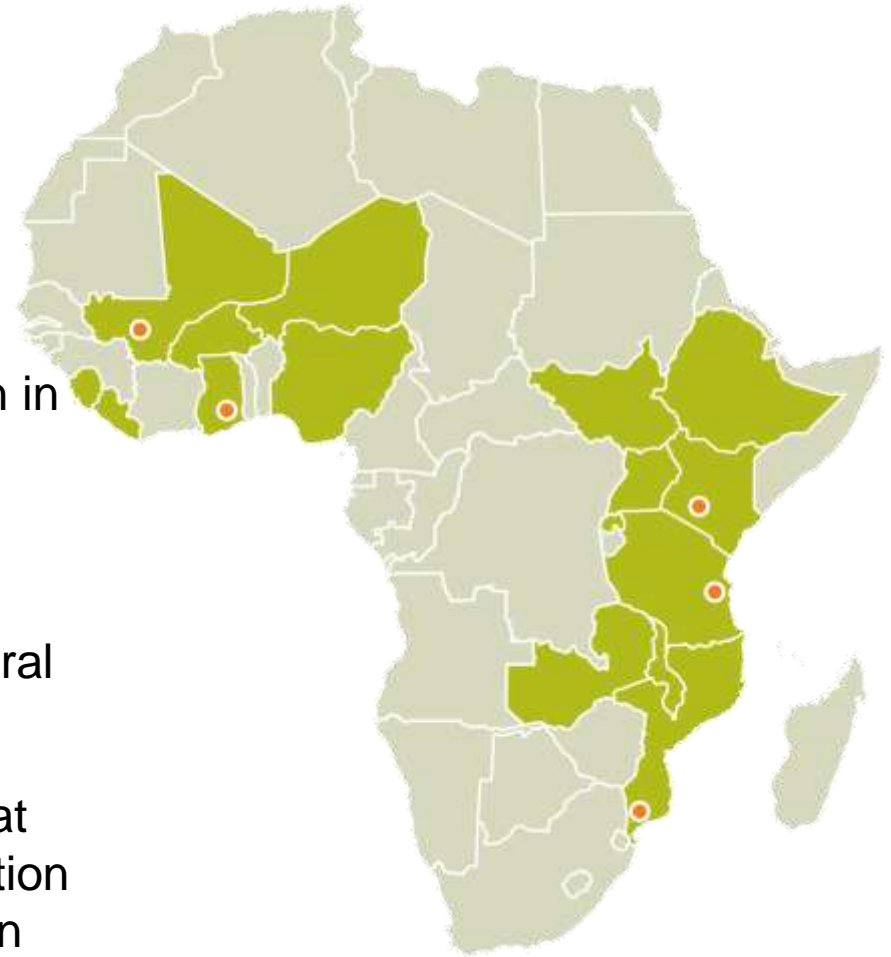
- Catalyze at least 15 countries towards attaining and sustaining a Green Revolution
- Reduce food insecurity by 50% in at least 20 countries by 2020
- Double incomes of 20 million smallholder families by 2020



AGRA Mission and Components

AGRA's mission is to catalyze an agricultural transformation in Africa through innovation-driven, sustainable, productivity increases and access to finance that improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers.

1. Catalyze an agricultural transformation in key agro-ecological zones on the continent.
2. Unlock the value of private and public sector investments to sustain agricultural transformation.
3. Develop capacities and capabilities that will strengthen and sustain the foundation for African agricultural transformation in the future.



Our systemic interventions

AGRA continues to develop programs with a vision to identify and scale successful models across the value chain.



Program for African Seed Systems

PASS aims to develop seed systems that deliver new crop technology to farmers in an efficient, equitable and sustainable manner.

Soil Health Program

SHP aims to promote an efficient and economically sustainable supply of fertilizer to farmers and promote the uptake of appropriate Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) technology packages.



Market Access Program

The Markets program aims to create and ensure commercialization opportunities for smallholder farmers by facilitating the realization of meaningful improvements to the market infrastructure (transport systems, storage facilities, legal and policy frameworks and financing systems) for core food staples of Africa.

FOSCA

Works with farmer Organizations (FOs) to provide demand-driven, income-enhancing services to their members.

Policy Program

Aims to develop a strong policy support system that will drive accelerated and sustained adoption of agricultural technologies by smallholder farmers, raise household incomes and enhance food security.

Innovative Finance

Aims to unlock credit for smallholder farmers and small agricultural businesses previously considered too risky for lending, giving them unprecedented opportunities to invest in growth.



ICT4Ag

AGRA supports ICT applications along the value chain .

1. Market information Systems
2. Input supplies –Agro-dealers, companies (location, stock management, replenishment)
3. Advisory and extension services including good agronomic practices.(Empowering community extension workers)
4. Financial services
5. Marketing and Post harvest management (Digital Farmer Aggregation Platforms)
6. Capacity building Farmer Organizations (Electronic membership registers)

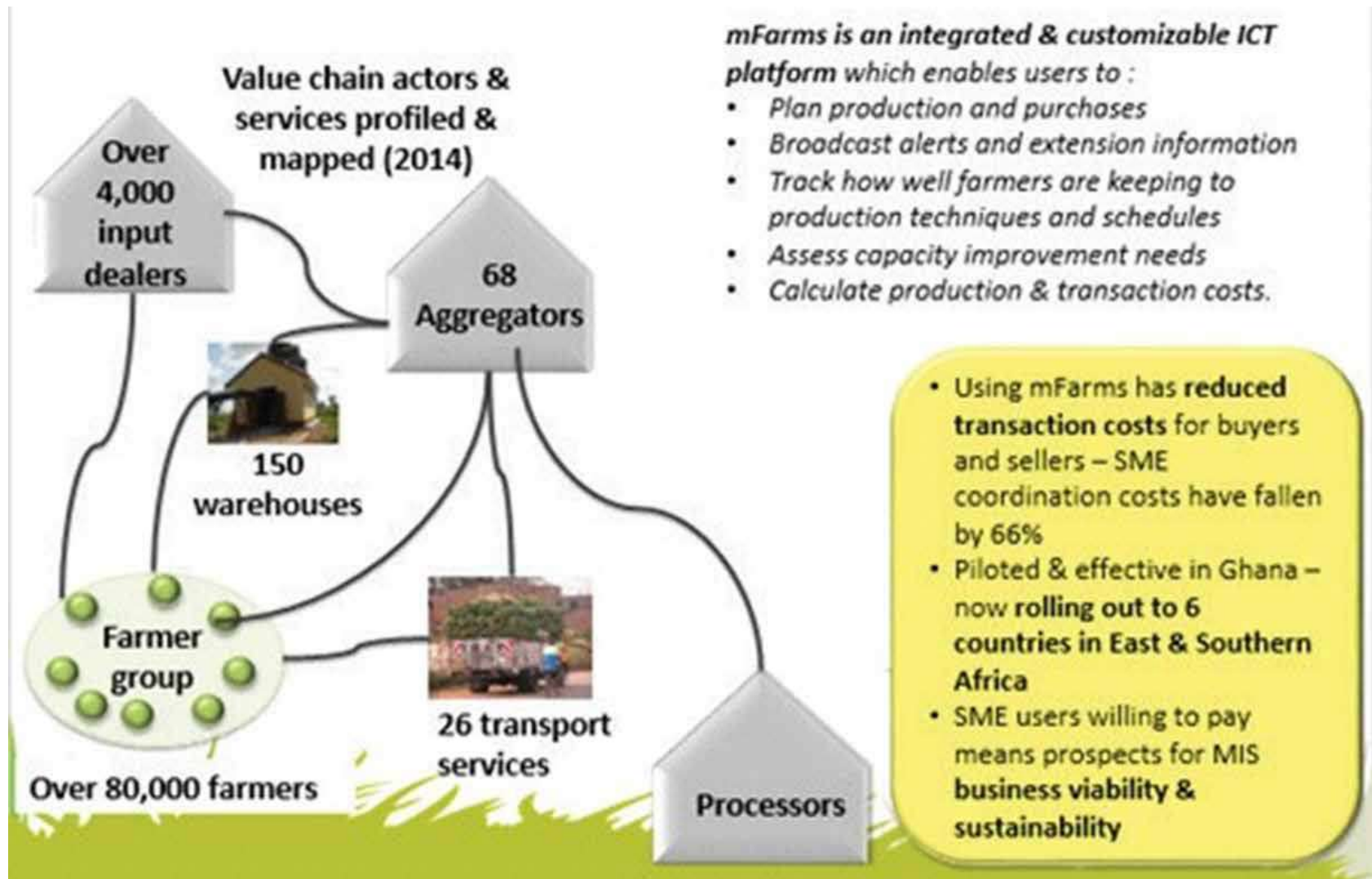


ICT4Ag – approaches, tools

1. Mobile telephony (sms, voice messages)
2. Internet – web services
3. Platforms –mfarms, Tigo Kilimo, Kilimo Biashara; mfarming (Sibesonke)
4. Social media –face book Mkulima Young
5. Interactive radio (integrated with sms esp community radios)
6. Interactive Video/TV (integrated –e.g. Digital Green; Community Tri-cycles)

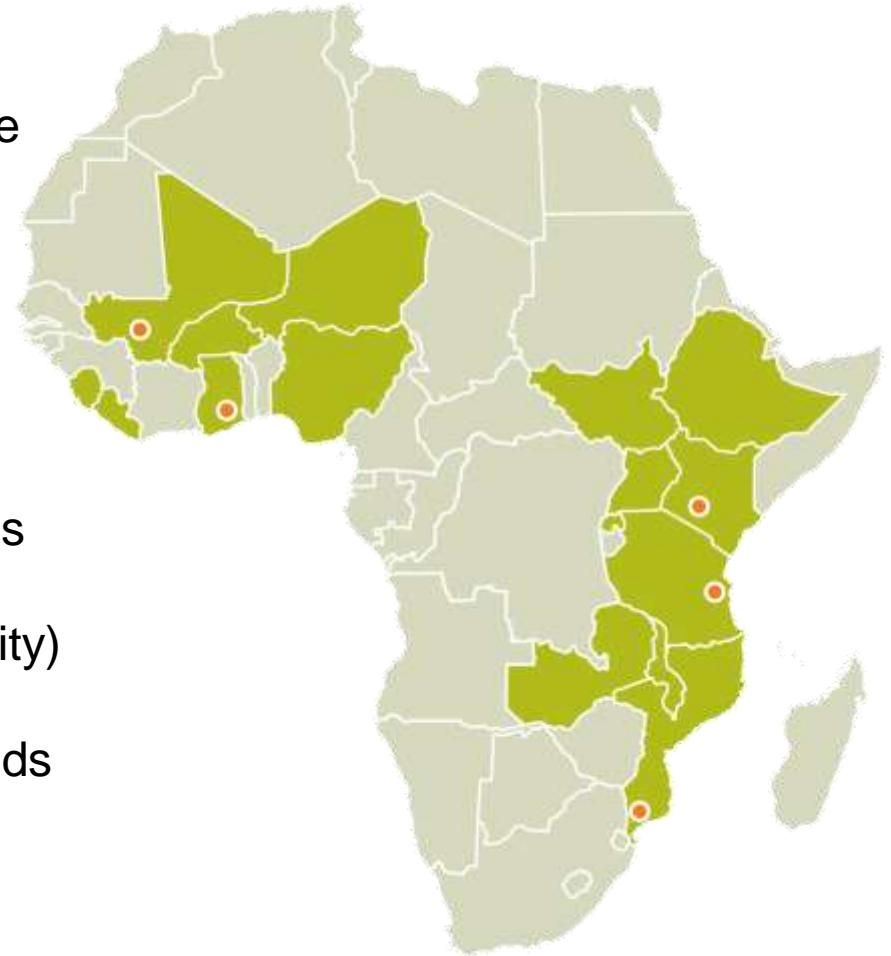


mFarms



ICT4Ag – Key issues for consideration

1. Heavily focused on markets prices –little efforts addressing other value chain segments
2. Scalability of ICT Solutions
3. Develop Sustainable Business and Investment Models through Partnerships
4. Content management (credibility, integrity)
5. Appropriate technology –consumer needs vis a vis developers interests
6. Hardware issues



Growing Africa's prosperity through collaborative partnerships

