

GAIA

GENDER IN AGRIBUSINESS
INVESTMENTS FOR AFRICA

POWERED
BY  AWARD
African Women in Agricultural
Research and Development



Gender in Agribusiness Investments for Africa (GAIA) AgTech Innovation Boot Camp

Lusaka, Zambia

April 2017



A game-changer: Investing in innovative agricultural research solutions for the future of Africa

Gender in Agribusiness Investments for Africa

Agricultural technologies (AgTech) can exacerbate already existing gender inequalities in African agriculture. Gender in Agribusiness Investments for Africa (GAIA) aims to deploy these technologies thoughtfully so that they have the potential to bridge the gender gap across various value chains.

AWARD has launched GAIA with a goal of increasing agribusiness investments in technological and business model innovations that help close the gender gap in African agriculture, with a particular focus on innovations by African women scientists.

GAIA will create and manage an “AgTech solutions market place” that ensures the visibility, commercialization and scaling up of agricultural research innovations that lead to more inclusive growth of Africa’s agricultural sector.

GAIA will move these AgTech innovations from labs, to farms, to markets.





GAIA's Value Proposition

- Scaling up AgTech innovations that help bridge the gender gap in Africa's agriculture. A variety of players across the agribusiness sector recognize that the gender gap in African agriculture represents an untapped opportunity. GAIA meets industry needs by spotlighting and supporting a rare pipeline of pre-qualified gender responsive agribusinesses; businesses that purposefully seek to level the playing field for a diversity of men and women across agricultural value chains.
- Gender lens to agribusiness investments. By targeting and engaging the key agribusiness sector investors, GAIA builds basic awareness on how to deploy a gender lens to enhance the social impact of agribusiness investments.
- Need for gender diversity among those who receive agripreneurship funding. GAIA pays particular attention to female agribusiness entrepreneurs and facilitates connections to increase the funding and support available to women agripreneurs.
- A ready pipeline of bankable and scalable AgTech innovations to maintain a competitive edge. From its roots in the agricultural research sector, GAIA offers a database of pre-qualified AgTech business ideas ready for commercialization providing entrepreneurs and investors an opportunity to diversify their pipelines.

Enhancing return on investment by taking innovations beyond proof of concept. Agricultural research is expensive and GAIA ensures that researchers maximize their return on investment by connecting them to entrepreneurs, investors, and agribusiness industry players ready to scale up research outputs.



2017 Southern and Central Africa AgTech Innovation Challenge Entrepreneurs

Name of Representative: Flavien Kouatcha

Name of Company: Save Our Agriculture

Countries served: Cameroon and Senegal

Save our Agriculture reduces postharvest losses by using mobile-controlled food production units.

Name of Representative: Lishuko Bob Ndatoya

Name of Company: Kenzam Solutions Limited

Country: Zambia

Efarm Africa is an e-commerce platform that helps farmers market their farm products globally.

Name of Representative: Narcisse Mbunzama

Name of Company: Mobile Agribiz

Country: Democratic Republic of Congo

Mobile Agribiz is a web and mobile application that helps farmers get necessary information on the most efficient ways of farming based on their land profiles.

Name of Representative: Gilbert Mwale

Name of Company: E-Msika Services Limited

Country: Zambia

E-Msika is an e-commerce platform that reduces agri-market inefficiencies by providing a wider market for farmers' produce.

Name of Representative: Tendai Mugovi

Name of Company: SorghumWorld

Country: Zimbabwe

SorghumWorld reduces postharvest losses by producing cooking gel from sorghum.



2017 Southern and Central Africa AgTech Innovation Challenge Entrepreneurs

Name of Representative: Bongajum Lesley Ndzi

Name of Company: Bonga Juice Bars

Country: Cameroon

Bonga Juice Bars reduce postharvest losses by using locally sourced fruits, vegetables, and dairy to make juice and smoothies.

Name of Representative: Dymus Kisilu

Name of Company: Solar Freeze

Countries served: Congo and Kenya

Solar Freeze reduces postharvest losses by using solar-powered cold room units to increase the shelf life of produce.

Name of Representative: Franz Ntoko

Name of Company: MetroCredit

Country: Cameroon

MetroCredit provides financing and insurance services to farmers and agribusiness owners.

Name of Representative: Pontsho Moletsane

Name of Company: Yellow Beast

Country: South Africa

Yellow Beast improves agri-market efficiencies by automating irrigation.

Name of Representative: Clever Mukove

Name of Company: Knowledge Transfer Africa

Country: Zimbabwe

Knowledge Transfer Africa is a web and mobile knowledge sharing platform for agricultural information.



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Name of Representative: Epaphrate Nghombombong

Name of Company: eFarm.cm

Country: Cameroon

eFarm.cm is a web and mobile e-commerce platform for agricultural produce.

Name of Representative: Mercy Manyuchi

Name of Company: Harare Institute of Technology (HIT Enviro)

Country: Zimbabwe

HIT Enviro closes yield gaps in agriculture by producing easily available and affordable biofertilizer granules through vermicomposting.

Name of Representative: Hastings Mkandawire

Name of Company: Turbines Development Enterprise

Country: Malawi

Turbines Development helps smallscale farmers in off-grid communities access electrification systems for use in irrigation, storage, and processing.

Name of Representative: Murendeni Mafumo

Name of Company: Kusini Water

Country: South Africa

Kusini Water reduces postharvest losses by using macadamia nuts to make mobile still water production units.

Name of Representative: Menzi Mahlobo

Name of Company: Systemdex

Country: South Africa

Systemdex simulates ocean conditions in fish farms; thereby helping inland smallholder fish farmers engage in ocean fish farming.



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Name of Representative: Kuziva Chatukuta

Name of Company: Mixed Ability Chicken 'n' Egg Farm

Country: Zimbabwe

Mixed Ability reduces postharvest losses by using solar driers to improve the shelf life of pre-processed chicken meat.

Name of Representative: Joseph Manzvera

Name of Company: SmartConnect

Country: Zimbabwe

SmartConnect reduces market inefficiencies by linking smallholder farmers to desired markets through a mobile application.

Name of Representative: Félicité Ahitantsoa

Name of Company: Tilapia de L'est

Country: Madagascar

Tilapia de L'est closes yield gaps in livestock value chains by providing technical assistance and facilitating access to good quality inputs to smallscale farmers in cooperatives.

Name of Representative: Pilirani Khoza

Name of Company: Bunda Female Students Organisation (BUFESO)

Country: Malawi

BUFESO established youth agribusiness cooperatives that empower youth and women in agribusiness.

Name of Representative: Herbert Mudzamba

Name of Company: Hakaiy Logistics t/a OneAcre Zimbabwe

Country: Zimbabwe

Hakaiy Logistics closes the gender gap in agriculture education by using role models to develop specialised female farmers who can aid the uptake of climate-smart agriculture.



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Name of Representative: Barbara Banda

Name of Company: National Association of Business Women (NABW)

Country: Malawi

NABW provides alternative financing tools for increased access to agricultural inputs in legume value chain actors in Malawi.

Name of Representative: Cuthbert Catsvanga

Name of Company: Africa Fruits

Country: Zimbabwe

Africa Fruits closes yield gaps in crop value chains by providing a market for locally available and otherwise wasted fruits.

Name of Representative: Emídio Matlombe

Name of Company: SeTe Agrária

Country: Mozambique

SeTe Agrária helps smallholder farmers reduce postharvest losses by establishing fruit processing centers near them.

Name of Representative: Judith Sikayi

Name of Company: Impact Africa Trust

Country: Zimbabwe

Impact Africa Trust uses an e-commerce platform focussed on goat meat to reduce livestock market inefficiencies in Zimbabwe.

Name of Representative: Meyanga Ayong

Name of Company: Cacao + Ayos

Country: Cameroon

Cacao + Ayos reduces postharvest losses by using solar-powered dryers to increase the shelf life of harvested cocoa.



2017 Southern and Central Africa AgTech Innovation Challenge Entrepreneurs

Name of Representative: Samuel Domingos

Name of Company: Agromaco Dairy

Country: Mozambique

Agromaco Dairy reduces postharvest losses by helping rural farmers produce sterilized milk.

2017 Southern and Central Africa AgTech Innovation Challenge Partners



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**African Agribusiness
Incubators Network**





African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) is working towards inclusive, agriculture-driven prosperity for the African continent by strengthening the production and dissemination of more gender responsive agricultural research and innovation. We invest in African scientists, research institutions, and agribusinesses so that they can deliver agricultural innovations that better respond to the needs and priorities of a diversity of women and men across Africa's agricultural value chains.

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For more information, visit www.awardfellowships.org.

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