



## Value Chain Partners Background Information

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### Maize Value Chain Project Partners

#### East African Grain Council

The Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) is a membership-based organization registered in Kenya as a Company Limited by Guarantee and without share capital. It will operate as a non-profit, non-political, non-denominational organization, which will prepare, disseminate, and promote the exchange of information on matters affecting the regional grain industry.

The mission statement of Eastern Africa Grain Council is:

*“ EAGC is the recognized regional grain trade organization dedicated to the task of improving the policy and trade environment for the betterment of the grain sector from producer to consumer”.*

The council expects to achieve this by creating long-term solutions that will address the various issues and constraints of the grain industry in the region.

The objectives of the Council include:

- Build cooperation, interaction, partnerships, alliances, networks and market linkages
- Promote a well functioning regional grain supply chain, focusing on trade issues affecting all sectors of the chain, and building a platform for reducing constraints in regional grain trade
- Collect market data, generate information exchange and share regional expertise
- Promote investment in structured marketing systems including warehouse receipts and commodity exchanges.
- Act as main certification authority in structured systems; and provide commercial services as needed
- Recognize and support accepted principles of international codes of corporate conduct
- Facilitate awareness of new technologies
- Represent the regional membership at national, regional and international forums, and lead advocacy and lobbying actions for best interests of Council members

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### Dairy Value Chain Project Partners

#### International Livestock Research Institute

The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) works at the crossroads of livestock and poverty, bringing high-quality science and capacity-building to bear on poverty reduction and

sustainable development. ILRI works in Africa, Asia and Latin America, with offices in East and West Africa, South and Southeast Asia, China and Central America.

All ILRI work is conducted in extensive and strategic partnerships that facilitate and add value to the contribution of many other players in livestock research for development work. ILRI employs an innovation systems approach to enhance the effectiveness of its research. Fundamental change in culture and process must complement changes in technologies to support innovations at all levels, from individual livestock keepers to national and international decision-makers.

ILRI's strategic intention is to use livestock as a development tool, one that widens and sustains three major pathways out of poverty: (1) securing the assets of the poor, (2) improving smallholder and pastoral productivity and (3) increasing market participation by the poor. ILRI conducts research in five themes—Targeting research and development opportunities; Enabling innovation; Improving market opportunities; Using biotechnology to secure livestock assets; and People, livestock and the environment—and coordinates the Systemwide Livestock Programme of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

ILRI is supported by the CGIAR, an association of more than 60 governments and public- and private-sector institutions supporting a network of 15 agricultural research centers working to reduce poverty, hunger and environmental degradation in developing countries.

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## Cassava Value Chain Project Partners

### Ghana Food Research Institute

The Ghana Food Research Institute is one of thirteen affiliated centers of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). It is tasked with conducting applied research on problems associated with food processing and preservation, storage, marketing, distribution and utilization, in support of the food industry and also to advise government on its food policy.

*“The Institute’s mission focuses on providing scientific and technological support to the growth of the food and agricultural sectors of the national economy in line with corporate prioritization and national objectives. Primarily, the FRI’s mission is to conduct market-oriented applied research and provide technical services and products profitably to the private sector and other stakeholders.”*

The Institute aims to alleviate poverty by engendering opportunities to propagate and increase incomes within multiple levels of the food industry. In addition, its members seek to address food security and elevate the utilization of innovative and efficient food processing technologies that are environmentally sound.

The Institute outlines its objectives as follows:

- To develop and provide technical information, training and services to the private sector and other stakeholders in the food industry
- To provide appropriate technology packages for processing and storage of raw agricultural produce to facilitate curtailment of post-harvest losses and promote value addition for local and export markets
- To strengthen the Institute's capability and linkages with industry through human resource and infrastructural development, restructuring and reorganization for effective commercialization of operations

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## Gender Value Chain Project Partners

### Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and NRM

Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture (WOCAN) builds the leadership of women and men in agriculture and natural resource management for organizational transformation for gender equality through an innovative approach of partnering motivated professional and rural women.

WOCAN is women-led international membership network of women and men professionals experienced in sustainable agriculture and natural resource management committed to building the leadership capacities of poor rural women for agricultural development and natural resource management in ways that improve their livelihoods. Core strategies to accomplish this are:

1. to build women champions within agriculture and NRM organizations and amongst rural women
2. to build capacities of poor rural women to generate income from agriculture and forest products through enhanced engagement with markets
3. to advocate at all levels for greater benefits and decision making power for rural women

WOCAN's approach is to build capacities of "brokers" – women and men staff of agriculture and natural resource management organizations - to act as change agents by strengthening their accountability to rural women and building environments that enable gender equality within agriculture and natural resource management organizations. Through the extensive network of members and a core team of consultants, WOCAN also builds capacities of rural women by providing training in leadership and agro-enterprise development and links these women to mentors and supporters in agriculture and NRM service providing organizations.

- We believe that professional women can use their education, skills, resources, and positions to lead processes of change that bring increased levels of resources and commitment to community women's groups engaged in agriculture and natural resource management.

- We believe that professional women working together, across organizations and country boundaries, can collectively share knowledge and skills to influence their organizations and nations to bring about change for gender equality.
- We believe that all women can become leaders.
- We believe that men play a critical role in supporting women leaders, both within communities and their organizations.
- We believe that a network of women already working within organizations, coupled with a supportive network of women and men who act as trainers, mentors, advisors and allies, can build a dynamic force for change.

WOCAN partners are government and non-governmental organizations that seek to improve their abilities to implement gender responsive programs for women farmers and to themselves integrate gender into their structures and cultures.

Founded in 2003, WOCAN has grown rapidly to include over 700 members in 83 countries; about 1/3 of these are in Sub-Saharan Africa, one third in Asia, and one third in North America, Europe, Latin America/Caribbean, Oceania and Near East and North Africa.

Principal donors include International Fund for Agricultural Development, Heifer International, New Field Foundation, International Development Research Centre, Canadian International Development Agency, UN Food and Agriculture Organization, and NORAD.

# Value Chain Experts Background Information

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## Maize Value Chain Expert

### The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)

CIMMYT is committed to improving livelihoods in developing countries. Through strong science and effective partnerships, CIMMYT creates, shares, and uses knowledge and technology to increase food security, improve the productivity and profitability of maize- and wheat-based farming systems, and sustain natural resources.

CIMMYT is a non-profit research and training center with direct links to about 100 developing countries through offices in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. CIMMYT participate in an extensive global network of people and organizations who share similar development goals, including the public and private sector, non-governmental and civil society organizations, relief and health agencies, farmers, and the development assistance community.

The abbreviation “CIMMYT” is derived from the Spanish version of their name: Centro Internacional de Mejoramiento de Maíz y Trigo.

How CIMMYT Helps:

- Develop better seed and cropping practices: Improved maize and wheat seed can produce plants that naturally resist diseases and pests, tolerate too much or too little water, overcome the limitations of poor soils, survive excessive cold or heat, offer more nutrition, are more marketable, and yield more grain for food or sale. Better cropping practices save water, land, and other natural resources, aside from raising yields.
- Help the world conserve and use the great diversity in maize, wheat, and related species. Through CIMMYT’s genebank, important worldwide collections of maize and wheat are held in trust for future generations. The genes in these seeds will help solve emerging food production problems, such as those caused by climate change.
- Build capacity and share knowledge to promote development. CIMMYT trains and mentors researchers. They teach farm households and rural communities to use new farming practices and produce seed. CIMMYT provides technical information and support that helps researchers, policymakers, and development workers worldwide. CIMMYT advocates appropriate policies to foster food and income security, and carries out impact assessments to determine the poverty reduction impact of technology adoption. Research results are shared worldwide and made publicly available.
- Speed the recovery from natural disasters and civil strife. CIMMYT advises government agencies, relief organizations, and health organizations about appropriate seed and cropping practices to help farm households recover from famine, drought, floods, war, and other disasters. CIMMYT helps nations restore agricultural research

material and infrastructure. These activities reduce the threat of continuing food shortages and long-term dependence on food aid.

CIMMYT is supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), an associate of more than 60 government and public- and private-sector institutions supporting a network of 15 agricultural research centers working to reduce poverty, hunger and environmental degradation in developing countries.

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## Dairy Value Chain Expert

### East Africa Dairy Development Project

The East Africa Dairy Development Project (EADD) is a regional industry development program implemented by Heifer International and a consortium of partners including TechnoServe, ILRI, The World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF) and ABS TCM. The project is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as part of an agricultural development grant designed to boost the yields and incomes of millions of small farmers in Africa and other parts of the developing world so they can lift themselves and their families out of hunger and poverty.

The vision of success for the East Africa Dairy Development project is that the lives of 179,000 families—or approximately one million people—are transformed by doubling household dairy income by the 10th year through integrated intervention in dairy production, market access and knowledge application.

Key components of the EADD Project:

- The development of 27 milk collection hubs, including chilling plants for bulking and holding milk for pickup by processors in refrigerated milk trucks.
- The formation of farmer business associations that will own and manage the plants and develop hubs of dairy business services;
- The use of artificial insemination to improve local breeds of dairy cows to produce more milk per day per cow. It will also focus on animal nutrition and health for better milk quality; and
- Extensive training provided by Heifer International and its partners in dairy animal husbandry, business practices, and other subjects needed to for successful operation of a business to produce, process and market dairy products.

The project operates in specific districts chosen for their suitability for smallholder dairy development in Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda with the goal of doubling incomes of participating families in those areas.

## Cassava Value Chain Expert

### International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) teams with partners in Africa and other international entities to reduce the risks to producers and consumers, improve crop quality and productivity, and improve livelihoods through agriculture. Founded in 1967 as an international non-profit, IITA is supported primarily by the CGIAR. The organization works throughout Africa at stations in Benin, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Uganda.

The IITA's mission statement reads:

*"Our mission is to enhance food security and improve livelihoods in Africa through research-for-development (R4D). IITA's R4D model proves effective in setting a research course that addresses major development problems in Africa rather than simply contributing to scientific knowledge, say external reviews."*

The IITA articulates its R4D model as:

1. *Development needs*: Identifies societal, producer and consumer needs that require addressing. Guarantees research relevance.
2. *Research*: Specifies research problems that can be addressed by IITA with advanced research institutes and national partners. The design demands envisioning the potential impact.
3. *Research impact*: Defines scalable research outcomes and any advocacy activities required. A successful outcome entices partners to adoption.
4. *EXIT*: Once the outcome is embraced by national/regional partners IITA exits implementation and changes role to monitoring the IITA research outcomes in the subsequent stages of development outputs and outcomes.
5. *Success/Development impact*: Ex-post evaluations are carried and compared to baseline information to measure the impact on the ultimate beneficiaries.
6. *Further work*: Development impact creates new challenges which are referred back to development needs.

### Natural Resources Institute (NRI)

Based in the United Kingdom at the University of Greenwich, the Natural Resource Institute (NRI) addresses and supports sustainable development, economic growth, and poverty reduction through research, advice, consulting, and learning. NRI became part of the University of Greenwich in May 1996 and was previously a part of the Imperial Institute when NRI was founded in 1894. NRI partners with development agencies providing research and technical evaluations to inform decisions on policy, economic investment, and planning. In addition to building relationships with the public sector, NRI harnesses the power of the

private sector and other stakeholders in encouraging policies and investment that will benefit those living in poverty.

NRI divides its research portfolio into four program areas:

- Making agriculture work for the poor
- Food and trade
- Change and vulnerability
- Capacity strengthening

In terms of cassava value chain research, NRI's Post-Harvest and Value Addition Group address the issues concerning durable and perishable crops after harvest to reduce losses, enhance financial or nutritional crop-value, and assure food safety. Within this group, the research projects span a number of topic areas, including: the fundamentals of storage and preservation of quality throughout the marketing chain, food-science aspects of agro-processing, and responses of consumers to new food products.

NRI is the lead investigator in a multinational research and development project, Cassava: Adding Value for Africa (C:AVA). Partnering with University of Agriculture in Abeokuta, Nigeria, the Ghana Food Research Institute, the Tanzania Food and Nutrition, the Africa Innovations Institute in Uganda, and Chancellor College at the University of Malawi, NRI will address the cassava value chain and the production of High Quality Cassava Flour (HQCF) in the partner institutions' countries. The project aims to improve the livelihoods and increase incomes of smallholder farmers, focusing particularly on women and other historically disadvantaged groups.

C:AVA will address three intervention points in the value chain:

1. Ensuring a consistent supply of raw materials;
2. developing viable intermediaries acting as secondary processors or bulking agents in value chains; and
3. driving market demand and building market share (in, for example, bakery industry, components of traditional foods or plywood/paperboard applications).