<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05-06</td>
<td>Message from the Chief Executive Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07-10</td>
<td>Individual Project Contribution to the Results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Overall KT Achievements since 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Tanzania Success Story LSF Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Uganda Success Story DINU Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Rwanda Success Story RYES Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>CARI-EA Success Story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Our Key Partners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONTENTS
### List Of Acronyms and Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KT</td>
<td>Kilimo Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>Metric tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REACTS-II</td>
<td>Regional East Africa Community Trade in Staples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARI-II</td>
<td>Competitive African Rice Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARI-EA</td>
<td>Competitive African Rice Initiative in East Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iMAP4CSA</td>
<td>Iringa - Mitigation, Adaptation, productivity for Climate Smart Agriculture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R4iCSA</td>
<td>Reduce - Re-Use - Recycle Rice Initiative for Climate Smart Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DINU</td>
<td>Development Initiative for Northern Uganda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NePEU</td>
<td>Network of producers and exporters Uganda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMEs</td>
<td>Small and Medium Enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APAK</td>
<td>Agro-Processors Association of Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCPB</td>
<td>National Cereals and Produce Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MoU</td>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-YES</td>
<td>Rural Youth Employment Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RP</td>
<td>Rwanda Polytechnic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RYAF</td>
<td>Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFCL</td>
<td>Musoma Food Company Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFP</td>
<td>World Food Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRPL</td>
<td>Kyela Rice Processors Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBS</td>
<td>Tanzania Bureau of Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRP</td>
<td>Sustainable Rice Practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RML</td>
<td>Ruaha Milling Company Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KG</td>
<td>Kilogram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tsh</td>
<td>Tanzania Shillings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPRCs</td>
<td>Integrated Polytechnic Regional Colleges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRA</td>
<td>Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD</td>
<td>United States Dollar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VC</td>
<td>Value chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAD</td>
<td>International Fund for Agricultural Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCL</td>
<td>Masaka Creamery Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BDF</td>
<td>Business Development Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIATA</td>
<td>Partnership for Inclusive Agricultural Transformation in Africa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dr. Birungi Korutaro

To the entire Kilimo Trust family, our funders, current and past partners, stakeholders, and friends, I am excited to share with you our biennial report with results for the last two years i.e., 2021 & 2022.

Both years tested our true resilience and determination in striving for excellence, amidst the unprecedented COVID-19 global pandemic and its aftermath that created very challenging conditions across the agricultural development space. Our business models were put to the test, along with the outstanding determination of our country teams to continue implementation of projects amidst adversity. I am proud to say that we have weathered the storm and emerged stronger, continuing to pursue excellence in making agribusiness a transformative tool for wealth creation, food and nutrition security for small holder farmers and other value chain actors in East Africa.

This report shows the achievements we continue to build in partnership with the private sector, local and national governments, business development service providers, mechanization providers, input suppliers and farming communities in East Africa.

We successfully completed implementation of Competitive African Rice Initiative in East Africa (CARI-EA) Project where we supported more than 200,000 small holder farmers and twenty-two (22) processors in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania with funding from USAID through AGRA. Mr. Sita Kurwa, a farmer who was engaged under Busega Rice Marketing and Trade consortium increased his paddy production from 0.63 to 2MTs/Acre per season and built a house. Mr. David Osamba of Nyabon Enterprises in Kenya expanded his business by establishing a farm machinery unit in Ayweyo that provides farmers agricultural solutions like farm advisory services and mechanization- tractors for hire or lease. We were also able to facilitate learning visits across the three countries for the millers that were supported in the project.

The first phase of the Reduce Reuse Recycle Rice Initiative for Climate Smart Agriculture (R4iCSA) project ended in 30th June 2022. This project is funded by the IKEA Foundation and is implemented in Kenya and Uganda. The pilot phase gave us the opportunity to explore regenerative and circular agriculture practices in the rice value chain. In the two years of the project, we engaged 18 private and public sector partners and established 19 business linkages dealing with farm inputs, rice products and by-products, legumes and business opportunities along the innovations which include (i) biochar making (ii) husk stove prototypes (iii) bio-effective microbes, (iv) vermicompost, (v) black soldier fly frass, (vi) pre-composting accelerator (vii) palletized husks utility stove and reached 10,000 small holder farmers. The five (5) evidence phase began in November 2022 and will be implemented in the same two countries.

In Rwanda, the Rural Employment Support Project (R-YES) funded by IFAD has capacitated 356 youths in agribusiness skills through training in colleges, apprenticeship, and mentorship, 84 among those have reported to being employed or started their own businesses. Kilimo Trust is working with Rwanda Polytechnic through its selected Integrated Polytechnic Regional Colleges (IPRCs), Rwanda TVET Board through its TVETs and over 70 Agro industries as well as the Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF).
In the new financial year, we continue to support the national priorities of the EAC countries in the rice, soybean, groundnut, dairy, poultry, piggery, horticulture, maize, Irish potatoes, and cassava value chains. We are optimistic that the new year presents abundant opportunities in digitalization and innovative ways of improving the agriculture sector in East Africa to feed the region and continent.

I would like to thank in a very special way our partners (SMEs, farmers, traders, development organizations), that have supported and worked with us to reach these incredible achievements. May your joy continue to be our joy. Together may we strive to achieve sustained and equitable wealth creation, food and nutrition security for small holder farmers and other value chain actors.

To all our funders, we would not exist without your support and the confidence you have in us. Thank you for the confidence you have in us and for supporting our vision.

All these results would not have been achieved without the hard work and commitment of the staff of Kilimo Trust. Thank you!

Dr. Birungi Korutaro

The CEO
Individual Project Contribution to the Results

2021/2022 Achievements

**LSF**
- 7.6% Reduction in post-harvest losses
- 90% of farmers and VC actors adopting improved technologies and management practices
- 29.5% of farmers and VC actors using structured trade arrangements
- USD 733,983 of agricultural finance accessed by farmers and VC actors
- 13,483 farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions
- 64 jobs created by KT interventions

**CARI-EA**
- 18% increase in net incomes and assets for smallholder farmers and agribusiness actors (USD/MT)
- 32% Change in yields
- 70% of farmers and VC actors using structured trade arrangements
- 148% of farmers and VC actors adopting improved technologies and management practices
- USD 9,799,479 worth of public and private sector investment leveraged by KT projects
- 181,678 MT of commodities traded
- USD 10,706,421 of agricultural finance accessed by farmers and VC actors
- 244,506 farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions
- 2,844 jobs created by KT interventions
### R-YES

**USD 330,762**
worth of public and private sector investment leveraged by KT projects

**USD 245,869**
of agricultural finance accessed by farmers and VC actors

- **356** farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions
- **84** jobs created by KT interventions

### Organic Fertilizer Production for Avocado

- **94%** of farmers and VC actors using structured trade arrangements
- **1,588** farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions
- **94%** of farmers and VC actors adopting improved technologies and management practices
- **25** jobs created by KT interventions

### R4iCSA

- **61%** Change in yields
- **5%** Reduction in post-harvest losses
- **443 MT** of commodities traded
- **68.8%** of farmers and VC actors adopting improved technologies and management practices

**USD 356,205.5**
worth of public and private sector investment leveraged by KT projects

**USD 227,629**
worth of commodities traded

- **75%** of farmers and VC actors using structured trade arrangements
- **8,152** farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions
- **552** jobs created by KT interventions

Kilimo Trust Biennial Report | 2021-2022
### DINU
- **75%** of farmers and VC actors using structured trade arrangements
- **3,262 MT** of commodities traded
- **USD 1,376,133** worth of commodities traded
- **38%** of farmers and VC actors adopting improved technologies and management practices

### 2 SCALE
- **1,969** farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions

### Connected Farmer +
- **4,997** farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions

### CARI-II
- **55%** increase in net incomes and assets for smallholder farmers and agribusiness actors (USD/MT)
- **87,135 MT** of commodities traded
- **81%** of farmers and VC actors adopting improved technologies and management practices
- **30%** Change in yields
- **USD 1,179,695** worth of public and private sector investment leveraged by KT projects
- **USD 31,475,105** worth of commodities traded
- **10,390** farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions
- **493** jobs created by KT interventions

**Kilimo Trust Biennial Report | 2021-2022**
**iMAP4CSA**

- **42%** Change in yields
- **465.5 MT** of commodities traded
- **7,104** farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions
- **USD 263,109** worth of commodities traded

**REACTS-II**

- **43.4%** increase in net incomes and assets for smallholder farmers and agribusiness actors (USD/MT)
- **50%** Change in yields
- **USD 301,883** worth of agricultural finance accessed by farmers and VC actors
- **295** jobs created by KT interventions
- **USD 1,741,176** worth of public and private sector investment leveraged by KT projects
- **46,472 MT** of commodities traded
- **26,385** farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions

**Cumulative achievements since project inception**

- **38%** increase in net incomes and assets for smallholder farmers and agribusiness actors (USD/MT)
- **43%** Change in yields
- **5.5%** Reduction in post-harvest losses
- **USD 13,407,317.50** worth of public and private sector investment leveraged by KT projects
- **319,455.5 MT** of commodities traded
- **USD 1,4923,058.70** worth of agricultural finance accessed by farmers and VC actors
- **355,429** farmers and VC actors benefiting from KT interventions
- **4,497** jobs created by KT interventions
Overall KT Achievements since 2005

- **Over 742,178 MT** of food staples valued at over **USD 357 Million** sold through structured trade
- **Over 2.05 Million** farmers have benefited (640,233 directly and 1,409,767 indirectly) from KT interventions
- **Over 5,571** full time jobs created through KT interventions
- **54** scooping, end markets and value chain analytics developed and published to guide development of agricultural ecosystems
- **Over USD 64 Million** of investments leveraged from private and public sector partners
- **Over 3,517** operational business linkages under 69 Business Consortia, established
- Close to **344** high potential SMEs (including 22 youth and 18 women owned agribusinesses) nurtured and linked to growth capital & markets
- **Over 12** Policy briefs developed and published
In the past years, farmers in Shinyanga region have been growing local sorghum varieties for consumption and not a crop that would earn them income. The local varieties were also not productive and considered for very poor family most affected by hunger. For example, farmers harvested only 400 kilograms from a 2-acre land using their local varieties.

When the project started working in the region particularly in Shinyanga District, a new sorghum variety i.e. Tegemeo, Macia and Narco Mtama I was introduced to the farmers. Farmers were also trained on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs). The project established demo plots in the district and some farmers also decided to plant the improved varieties of sorghum in their own plots.

Tumaini Group, a Farmer Business Organizations (FBO) located in Mwamakaranga Village in Shinyanga District is one of the FBOs that received the GAPs training and the new improved variety seeds for planting. Tumaini group started operation in October 2021 and as part of the project interventions, the FBO was registered in 2022. It currently has a total of thirty-two (32) farmers.

LSF is an 18-year project funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). It is implemented by Kilimo Trust in Shinyanga region in Tanzania particularly to contribute to competitive and inclusive transformation of the Sorghum value chain by building sustainable market system that is resilient to environmental and market shocks.

As a result of the training received through LSF Project and witnessing the progress of the new variety in the demo plots and farmer’s field despite of the low rainfall received in that season, farmers were impressed by the variety performance compared to their local varieties.

Mr. Elias Lusana, the chairperson of Tumaini group, says that a lot of farmers even those outside of the group were amazed by the progress of the new variety that they wanted to join the group and others asked for seeds considering that after irrigation there was only one rain.

The FBO harvested 1,680 kilograms of the improved variety from the same size of land they used to cultivate their local varieties. “Farmers have seen the difference between the local variety and the improved one. They recognize the possibility of gaining more income if they cultivate the improved variety.” Mr. Lusana explained.

He says that following the good performance of the new variety, individual farmers, and the group plan to cultivate more of this variety and increase land for cultivation.
Uganda Success Story

DINU Project

While interacting, one cannot miss the sight of joy on Mr. Jasper Okengo’s face. Throughout his narration, a phrase that constantly comes up is...

"Thank you Kilimo Trust, thank you DINU-BRENU Project."

Mr. Jasper Okengo is a 57-year-old rice farmer in Otuke District, married with 11 children. He is a member of Ogor joint farmer cooperative society limited located in Bar okango village, Otuke District. Jasper has been farming for 15 years and considers agriculture his main source of livelihood. For the long time he has been doing agriculture, he attests that the benefits and returns have not been matching the effort. He attributes this to the many production and marketing challenges he has faced mostly stemming from knowledge gaps.

Jasper says, “Because I did not know any better, my farming was characterized by poor seed selection, wrong timing during planting, poor planning, and middlemen were taking advantage and cheating me during marketing of my paddy rice. I often bought grain from the local market and used it as seed, which not only had poor quality and germinability but was also of mixed varieties and very susceptible to pests and diseases. This was affecting my production output”. He continues to elaborate that the returns from the farm were significantly reduced by the high cost of threshing.

Through his cooperative, Jasper became one of the beneficiary farmers of the ‘Building Resilience to Enhance Food and Nutrition Security, Incomes and Health in Northern Uganda under the Development Initiative of Northern Uganda’ (DINU-BRENU) Project in 2020. Through the BRENU project, he received and attended several trainings (such as farming as business/business development, postharvest handling, quality standards and control, among others), got access to improved postharvest technologies (motorized soybean thresher, automated grain cleaner, digital platform weighing scale, and moisture meter), and was linked to large formal buyers through the cooperative like Diners group limited (for paddy rice), and Lira Resort enterprise limited (Soybean grains).

Because of the business linkages that meant an assured market, Jasper got the confidence and motivation to increase production. In 2021, following the business linkage to Oasis Agribusiness Limited, he procured 200kgs of improved rice seeds (super variety) and planted 10 acres that season, from the initial 8 acres planted in 2019 (using home saved seed). In 2019, Jasper harvested 1.6 MTs of paddy rice per acre, however, in 2021, this increased to 3.5 MTs/acre.
Jasper has been able to take advantage of the formal business trade agreements and linkages established. In December 2021, he sold 30 MTs of paddy rice to Diners Group Limited at 1,200 Ugx per Kg amounting to UGX 36,000,000. A balance of 5MTs was saved to be sold as seeds in the next season to other farmers.

“My annual income has increased from UGX 19,000,000 to UGX 37,500,000.” With the income from the paddy rice sold, Jasper decided to apply for a tractor loan from DINU-OPM office that was advertised on the radio and meant for commercial farmers due to the challenges he faced during land preparation (high cost of hiring tractor) and a growing demand for tractor services in his district. He excitedly explains “I applied for the tractor loan and through recommendation from the district, I was approved, and I made the required 10% (14,000,000 Ugx) deposit from the amount realised from the sales of my paddy rice out of total cost of 140,000,000 Ugx for the tractor. I used the remaining money from the paddy sales (UGX 22,000,000) to pay school fees, purchase inputs for the following season and increase the stock in my hardware business”.

Going forward, Jasper plans to massively secure work (demand) for his tractor services to help in the quarterly loan repayment, use his tractor to increase the acreage from 10 to 30 by 2023. Additionally, Jasper also wishes to continue buying improved rice seeds, and procure his own threshing machine that would support the processing of his high-quality paddy rice. He envisions himself to be the main producer of paddy rice and supplier in Otuke District and to achieve that Jasper asserts that he has to stick to his plan and keep on applying all the knowledge he has gained as well as utilize all the technologies that were given optimally.
Dominik Ziller, the Vice President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), has commended the idea of employing ‘plenty of youth’ with speech and hearing impairment, which is part of the youth employment creation model under the Rural Youth Employment Support (R-YES) project.

Ziller shared these remarks on Tuesday, following a guided tour at Masaka Creamery Ltd (MCL), a Kigali-based dairy processing factory, which is partnering with Kilimo Trust under the R-YES project to train youth with hearing impairment in milk processing.

It is implemented by a consortium led by Kilimo Trust Rwanda. Other consortium members include Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF) and Rwanda Polytechnic.

“What is very special is that the plant here employs plenty of youth with disabilities (deaf), so this is something which is very much in line with our mission to really live up to the development goals while no one is left behind,” Ziller told The New Times in an interview on the side-lines of the event.
At MCL, over half (26 out 46) of employees have a hearing impairment, including the production manager and the entire production department.

The factory makes dairy products including yogurt, butter, fermented milk, and cheese.

“Another special thing about this project is that they do a match making between the youth that are willing to do this work and the enterprises. They are really branching out and also training young people to have certificates and licenses to be able to qualify on the market,” he added.

“The more a country becomes self-reliant and self-sustainable and produces everything you need like food onshore in your country, the less dependent you are on global developments, regardless of what happens with the pandemic and any crisis,” he asserted.

The project is part of a larger programme of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) that focuses on creation of employment opportunities for rural youth in Africa through support to integrated agribusiness hubs.

**Increasing demand**

According to Andrew Gashayija, R-YES Project team leader, since the launch of the project, there has been increasing demand from different partners to contribute to the project’s aim of “creating greener pastures even in the rural areas.”

As it stands, he pointed out, a total of 349 are going through training in six colleges including TVETs, and that MCL is one of the 25 industries they are partnering with.

“The youth need to be skilled so that they can take advantage of opportunities in agriculture, which is the main livelihood in rural areas,” he said.

Questioned on the high business failure rate of grants given to youth, Gashayija highlighted that R-YES builds technical and entrepreneurial skills of youth including those from IFAD loan portfolio through Business Development Fund (BDF).

“By building technical and entrepreneurial skills of rural youth, this project provides much needed skilled labour in food and agribusiness industries and reduces youth migrating to urban areas; sometimes crossing over to other countries (in search of job opportunities),” he added.

Ziller recommended that more efforts should be put to ensure that the project is sustainable.

“My recommendations for this one here, in particular for Kilimo; we provided a grant for Kilimo to allow them this matchmaking between enterprises. The question is, what will happen if this money runs out,” he added, “What we need to do is to find out how Kilimo can work sustainably, whether the government steps in to give them subsidies, or gives them additional money.”

“Be it that they charge fees from employers to whom they give...we are committed to stay with them and help them develop.”

For MCL, according to Luke Lundberg, Director of Special Project, the aim is to foster capacity expansion, acquire a dairy quality lab, develop their software to be able to track all their products as well as rebrand.

Ziller is in Rwanda to discuss how to further strengthen collaboration between Rwanda and IFAD, especially now that the government aims to move agriculture from subsistence to a more knowledge-intensive, competitive and market-oriented sector.

Since 1981, IFAD has financed 19 rural development programmes and projects in Rwanda for a total value of US$631.5 million, of which IFAD has contributed $358.0 million, directly benefiting about 1.5 million rural households.
The project was commissioned from April 2019 up to May 2022 by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) strategy for Partnership of Inclusive Agricultural Transformation in Africa (PIATA) with a total funding of US$ 3.13 Million, and jointly implemented by Kilimo Trust and the EAC Secretariat. A number of livelihoods across East Africa have improved, thanks to the CARI-EA project.

**Tanzania**

For instance in Tanzania, Mr Sitta Kurwa a rice farmer and a resident of Sanga village in Busega District had no permanent house. “Previously I would produce 7 bags of rice approximately 630kgs/Acre) from my 5-acre rice farm which is about 2 hectares. However, after the CARI-EA project interventions with Busega Mazao Limited, I have registered tremendous success in his paddy production business and managed to harvest 113 bags of 90kgs each equating to 2,034kgs/Acre (5MT/ha) on the same field,” Mr. Kurwa explained. This is attributed to the success to the training and extension services he received under Contractual relationship with Busega Mazao Company through CARI-EA project. “I sale my produce to Busega Mazao and the money helps me acquire basic needs and complete my house roofing construction,” he adds.

**Kenya**

In Kenya, Mr David Osamba, CEO Nyabon is grateful to the CARI-EA. He says: “The business has expanded, and I have been able to establish a farm machinery unit at Ayweyo along AheroKatito road. The unit is already offering a one stop shop for farmers’ agricultural solutions including farm advisory services, and mechanization demo plots,” Mr Osamba says. He adds that the overflow effect has been the engagement of the youth in rice agribusiness. where Nyabon is currently training tractor and machine operators as service providers and ToTs. The firm currently permanently employs eight youth: 5 male and 3 ladies as pioneer operators.

**Uganda**

For the case of Uganda, Ms Rachel Ajambo, Team lead, CARI-EA project says that farmers under Upland Rice Millers Company have benefited from the exposure visits to Namulonge. “The farmers have acquired knowledge and awareness such as fertilizers among other inputs hence doubling yields which were previously 1.2MT/ha,” she says, noting that besides, agronomy, farmers have been trained in financial management, postharvest handling and milling operations. Farmers can also access crop finance opportunities by just
presenting their national IDs to the mill operators (their SACCO) and later get the loans to invest in their farms. She explains: “When the project had just started, the farmers nly had one store and a small mill but this has changed as a larger miller to process more tonnages of rice plus two large stores with capacity of up to 250 tons each have been constructed.” This farmer cooperative has been able to purchase a track for carrying milled rice to potential market areas and also construct a drying shed in addition to the tarpaulins that Upland Rice Millers Company provided. Ms Ajambo notes that the project implementation was done using the Consortium Approach to Value Chain Development in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania through a 40:60 (USAID/AGRA and private sector companies) matching grant mechanism with 22 private sector companies spread in the 3 countries (4 in Kenya, 6 in Uganda and 12 in Tanzania). “This helped increase increased productivity, commercialization, profitability, and resilience for enterprises of smallholder producers of rice, strengthened and expanded access and competitiveness in the national and regional markets for the locally produced rice,” Ms Ajambo says. In addition, it strengthened local, national and regional enabling policy and institutional environment for optimal commercialization of the rice sector.

Impact of CARI-EA Project

She added that more than 190,000 smallholder rice farmers were integrated in sustainable profitable supply chains of milling companies in the EAC, engaged smallholder farmers increase commercialization by more than 300% to take advantage of guaranteed markets offered by millers, over 145,000MT of paddy supplied by farmers through structured linkages. Furthermore about $10M financing was accessed by value chain actors as a result of CARI-EA interventions and more than $ 6M leveraged into the rice value chain from both private and public sector. “Large importers of rice into EAC, sourced at least 40% of their paddy supply from locally produced rice and more than 60% of Small Holder Farmers (SHFs) took part in increased adoption of technologies and practices hence enhancing productivity and reduction of postharvest losses,” Ms Ajambo adds.

Challenges

She cites two major challenges that affected CARI-EA during the implementation of the project. One was the COVID-19 pandemic that led to restrictions in movement of people. Secondly, the climatic changes especially in Uganda and Tanzania where the majority of the farmers depend on natural rain. In addition, although the Common Market Protocol calls for accelerated economic development and fostering social ties of regional citizens, intraregional trade still faces several challenges. Other challenges include; persistent trade disputes, inadequate value addition to the agricultural sector, non-tariff barriers, and a restrictive trade regime. Speaking during the closing ceremony of the Competitive African Rice Initiative–East Africa (CARI-EA) project organized by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) in collaboration with Kilimo Trust and the East African Secretariat in Kampala recently, the Minister for East African Affairs, Ms Rebecca Kadaga, asked regional member states to quell the reemerging trade barriers that continue to hurt trade. “During the month of August 2022, we received reports about the new trade barrier at the South Sudan border where each cargo truck is charged $60 (about Shs230,000) to cross. We are addressing that, but the challenge is, as we address existing barriers, new ones emerge,” Ms Kadaga who also doubles as First Deputy Premier noted. Mr Philip Idro, chief executive officer for Upland Rice Millers Ltd, said Africans have a duty to stabilise productivity, quality of rice to avoid spending $7.2b on rice imports. “There should be more concerted efforts by farmers, researchers and governments in terms of interventions, considering that Africa imports $7.2b of rice. That is the market we need for our farmers,” he said.

Outlook

Ms Ajambo says that it is anticipated that a follow-up phase of the project focusing on mechanization and access to finance may be funded. However, she notes that this remains to be seen as there are no commitments made yet by AGRA’s PIATA partnership.
Our Key Partners

### Funding Partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGRFAfrica Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heifer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Africa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Bank Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Private Sector

#### Kenya

- syngenta
- KCB

#### Rwanda

- EAX
- BABC Maize Flour Company Ltd
- PANNAR
- BRG Equity |

#### Tanzania

- MFC
- NMB
- KLR
- CBH Bank |

#### Uganda

- Oxfam
- dFcU Bank
- Soluti Finance
- Centenary Bank

### Implementing partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kenya</th>
<th>Tanzania</th>
<th>Rwanda</th>
<th>Uganda</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIAT</td>
<td>SAGCOT</td>
<td>CIAT</td>
<td>Bioversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACRE</td>
<td>CIAT</td>
<td>WFP</td>
<td>IITA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KENAFF</td>
<td>Acre</td>
<td>mPACT Africa</td>
<td>CABI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TECNOlSV</td>
<td>TECNOlSV</td>
<td>Rikalo</td>
<td>Chemonics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRO</td>
<td>CRI</td>
<td>RTB</td>
<td>IITA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACP</td>
<td>T&amp;H</td>
<td>Soluti</td>
<td>ACP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOP</td>
<td>TECNOlSV</td>
<td>Rikalo</td>
<td>TECNOlSV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCGA</td>
<td>CRI</td>
<td>RTB</td>
<td>TECNOlSV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRO</td>
<td>CRI</td>
<td>RTB</td>
<td>TECNOlSV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACP</td>
<td>TECNOlSV</td>
<td>Rikalo</td>
<td>TECNOlSV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>