

ANNUAL REVIEW 2023



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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to Farm Africa’s 2023 Annual Review, which showcases some of the highlights of our work supporting rural communities in eastern Africa to improve the quality, quantity and value of their produce, while farming in harmony with nature.

Across the region, the challenges of extreme poverty, food insecurity and biodiversity loss are being intensified by climate change, global economic instability and political disruption. The good news is that there is potential for farming communities to build more resilient livelihoods. Working together, Farm Africa and farmers are unlocking this potential, enabling farmers to both grow their incomes and restore biodiversity.

Longer term, we recognise that Africa has the ability to feed not only its own growing population but to be a major exporter to the rest of the world. As Bill Gates recently told the Financial Times “Africa can be a net food exporter, even in the face of climate change.”

At the heart of our programmes is the inclusion of women. Mary Temu, a smallholder farmer from Tanzania, explains why this is important: “In Africa, women, we tend to keep quiet. Men are those who are able to make a decision. But when you go to the field, women are the ones who are supposed to do a lot of work in the field.”

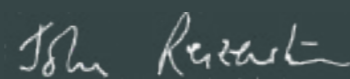
By supporting women to gain access to land and finance or take up leadership positions in cooperatives, we work to increase gender equity, which helps women boost not just their incomes but also their status.

This year, we were proud to see the quality of our programmes recognised through awards, including ‘Food & Beverage Charity Partnership of the Year’ at the Third Sector Business Charity Awards for our work with the Waitrose Foundation improving the lives of vegetable and flower farmers and workers on farms in the Waitrose supply chain in Kenya and Tanzania.

Fundraising highlights included our biggest ever team running the London Marathon; the incredible Mahale Mountains Trek, which raised more than £200,000; and our first year as the official charity of the London Coffee Festival; as well as some substantial legacy gifts and a networking reception in Dar es Salaam.

Our thanks go to Colin Breerton, Tim Smith and Charles Reed, who stepped down from the Board of Trustees this year. We are delighted that Charles remains with us as a new Ambassador, and we are pleased to welcome Keith Pickard as a new trustee.

The trustees would like to thank the Farm Africa team for their great commitment as well as everyone who supports our work towards realising our vision of a resilient rural Africa, where people and the environment thrive.



John Reizenstein
Chair



“I’m among the women who have been empowered. Farm Africa has enabled us to access improved varieties of seeds and link with markets.”

Mary Temu
smallholder farmer, Manyara region, Tanzania



Photo: Farm Africa / Side_ent

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

This time last year, I reflected on the severity of the unprecedented drought affecting eastern Africa. Towards the end of 2023, the region began finally experiencing wetter conditions, particularly in eastern and northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia, which are critical in reducing food insecurity. However, the rains brought by the El Niño phenomenon were too heavy in places, bringing challenges of flooding.

Extreme weather events remain a severe challenge for farmers in eastern Africa, who are bearing the brunt of the climate crisis, with very little support to adapt. The percentage of global climate finance reaching smallholder farmers is falling, and is now just 0.8%.

At Farm Africa, we are scaling up our support to help communities affected by the climate crisis build more resilient livelihoods. In 2023 we embarked upon three of our largest ever programmes.

In Ethiopia, we built on previous success working with Sida to launch a new four-year programme sustainably managing forests, conserving biodiversity, building communities’ resilience to climate change and developing sustainable livelihoods through holistic nature-based solutions.

In Kenya, we started work with the Mastercard Foundation on a \$20 million project that will create 150,000 sustainable, dignified jobs for young women and men,

internally displaced persons and people with disabilities in the aquaculture and mariculture sectors.

In Tanzania, we started work with the Dutch NGO SNV on a four-year programme that aims to boost the food security and nutrition of 168,000 households and support 100 small and medium-sized enterprises.

Last year also brought us opportunities to highlight to policy-makers why a food-secure future means focusing on smallholder farmers. Farm Africa submitted evidence to the UK government to inform the development of a new white paper on international development, which set out their vision for tackling extreme poverty and climate change. In November, I was pleased to attend the Global Food Security Summit convened by the UK Prime Minister.

As we scale up Farm Africa’s work and impact, we are grateful to all those who support us and make this growth possible. I’m also encouraged that as we expand our work we’ve been able to strengthen our financial reserves, creating the foundations for future stability and investment in the organisation.



Dan Collison
Chief Executive



WHERE WE WORK

WE HELP FARMERS TO NOT ONLY BOOST YIELDS, BUT ALSO GAIN ACCESS TO MARKETS, WHILE PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

IN 2023, WE REACHED 612,441 PEOPLE ACROSS EASTERN AFRICA.



FARM AFRICA'S PROJECT LOCATIONS IN 2023:

ETHIOPIA

- 1 Forests for sustainable development
- 2 Preserving ecosystems in Bale
- 3 Enhancing viability of participatory forest management
- 4 Making forest coffee profitable
- 5 Ilu Ababor eco-tourism scoping study
- 6 Gender transformative approaches in conservation and livelihoods
- 7 Pastoral community resilience building
- 8 Nature-based solutions for sustainable and inclusive development

KENYA

- 9 Market-led aquaculture
- 10 Waitrose Foundation
- 11 Waitrose climate resilience
- 12 Regenerative agriculture
- 13 Strengthening refugee-led small scale enterprises
- 14 Inclusive carbon sequestration
- 15 Growing futures
- 16 Sustainable agroforestry for carbon removal

TANZANIA

- 17 Boosting sorghum production in a changing climate
- 18 Developing business acumen in horticultural enterprises
- 19 Empowering women through sunflowers
- 20 Protecting poultry to impact farmers' livelihoods
- 21 Flourishing futures
- 22 Leveraging investment for community development
- 23 Farm to Market Alliance
- 24 Youth and women in agribusiness

UGANDA

- 25 Tackling youth unemployment in Uganda
- 26 Increasing market-orientated production of Arabica coffee together (IMPACT)

DR CONGO

- 27 Coffee production in Virunga National Park



“In the past, we used to have a big problem because after paying school fees, we were left with almost nothing. Now that the yield has grown, we can pay school fees and still have enough money to use at home.”

Modesto Kibuitu Kiambati
Regenerative Agriculture project, Tharaka Nithi, Kenya

Photo: Farm Africa / Arete

SECURING A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR THE HARENA FOREST

WITH A LITTLE RECALIBRATION, TRADITIONAL FOREST MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS CAN PLAY A POWERFUL ROLE IN MEETING THE NEEDS OF A CHANGING WORLD.



Rolling across the southern Bale Mountains, the Harena Forest is Ethiopia's largest remaining montane tropical moist forest. It is known for its many endemic plant and animal species and for being one of the last places on Earth where Arabica coffee still grows in the wild.

It is one of Ethiopia's few intact forests and many people rely upon its resources for their survival. Wild-growing forest coffee is an important source of subsistence income for local people, and wood gathered from the forest is a primary source of fuel. The forest also serves as a vital refuge in times of conflict, drought or natural disaster, providing shelter, shade, water and nourishment for people and livestock. Long-standing traditions govern usage of forest resources and cutting of live trees is prohibited without special permission from community elders.

However, times are changing.

Historically, the landscape that surrounds the Harena forest has been sparsely populated, but in recent decades many people have migrated to the area, clearing trees for intensive coffee production, livestock grazing and subsistence agriculture. While mature trees in the forest are still respected, in many areas the undergrowth shrubs and tree seedlings are being cleared to encourage the growth of wild coffee. The depletion of grazing lands is also causing more livestock to be driven into the forest in search of forage.

The changes of land use and increased population density are putting unsustainable demands on forest resources. To reverse the decline in forest biodiversity, there is urgent need to sustainably evolve livelihood strategies for local people.

EVOLVING TOGETHER

Already working collaboratively in the area since 2019, in 2021 Farm Africa and Forests of the World embarked on a two-year project to improve forest conservation in two communities that have experienced high population growth.

The project aimed to support community-based organisations in Harena Buluk and Dello Mena woredas to produce and sell more high-quality coffee, improve livestock productivity in a sustainable way and generate knowledge that could guide further livelihood and conservation activity.

The project provided training in forest-friendly farming techniques, livestock fodder production, business skills, biodiversity monitoring and biogas technology to over 1,900 people, who went on to train and assist over 5,300 others. If household members are included, it is estimated that over 28,000 people have benefitted overall.

REVERSING DESTRUCTIVE TRENDS

Especially encouraging has been the uptake of coffee-based agroforestry systems. By

planting wild coffee seedlings, fruit trees and fast-growing timber trees in combination with animal fodder and vegetable crops, farmers can realise a higher economic return. By the end of 2023, 147 farmers had converted a total of 24.1 hectares of farmland to agroforestry – that's the equivalent of reforesting 45 football fields!

Improving access to water for lowland communities has also reduced the need to drive livestock into the forest. A network of water points, canals, ponds, roof harvesting structures and pumps have been constructed to irrigate land and provide water for livestock and people. With these improvements, farmers can grow fodder for their livestock, reducing their reliance on open grazing. Over 230 households have benefitted.

MAKING CONSERVATION PROFITABLE

Great strides have been made in increasing the profitability of forest management cooperatives. Following the delivery of business development training to the delegates of 12 cooperatives, four have already formed business plans and are trading profitably.

There is widespread improvement in the quality and quantity of coffee being produced, and although the coffee market has been challenging in recent months, progress is being made in securing better access to markets.

Livelihood improvements aren't the only benefit to be unlocked. Community forest management cooperative members are now regularly monitoring biodiversity levels across the forest.

The need for smallholder farmers to collect such evidence of their sustainability is greater than ever. For example, in June 2023 the EU implemented a new regulation for a deforestation-free supply chain that requires smallholder coffee farmers to provide evidence of deforestation-free production.



"Our main problem was not getting a fair price for our products. For many years, our coffee was priced by brokers and traders, but now with the support of this project I have been able to supply my coffee to international markets."

Sheikh Hussein H/ Temam
a coffee producer



LINKING FARMERS TO MARKETS



IN TANZANIA, FARM AFRICA IS SUPPORTING MORE THAN 200 FARMER SERVICE CENTRES THAT MAKE MARKETS WORK BETTER FOR FARMERS.

In rural Tanzania, the majority of the population works in small-scale farming. However, smallholder farmers face many challenges that hinder their productivity and financial stability. Lack of quality inputs such as seeds and fertiliser, inadequate knowledge of agricultural practices, and insufficient post-harvest handling of crops all contribute to keeping farmers' yields, incomes and food security low.

Female farmers are particularly disadvantaged. Women's lack of land ownership means they are often excluded from deciding which crops to plant, and they lack the collateral needed to qualify for loans to buy quality inputs.

As part of the Farm to Market Alliance, since April 2022 Farm Africa has been working with the World Food Programme to support Farmer Service Centres (FSCs) in the Singida, Manyara and Morogoro regions of Tanzania to empower farmers to improve their productivity, profitability and food security.

This project is helping maize, beans, sunflower, soya bean and rice farmers to make a success of their businesses.

BUILDING A NETWORK

This project has established a network of 208 FSCs that has reached 70,596 smallholder farmers with services needed to increase productivity and build commercially viable businesses.

FSCs are a critical coordination platform. They offer farmers inputs such as seeds and fertilisers, mechanisation, agricultural extension services, and finance. They aggregate farmers' produce, connect farmers to markets and provide buyers with quality and quantity assurance.

We are promoting the importance of involving women in decision-making. The proportion of women and young people in FSCs' top leadership positions has increased from 25% at the start of the project to 41% by December 2023.

ENHANCING PRODUCTIVITY

We are supporting the FSCs to provide services to smallholder farmers such as soil testing, mechanisation and loans to pay for inputs.

The prices of farming inputs such as fertilisers, pesticides and seeds have rapidly increased recently. By linking FSCs direct with seed breeders, we've helped them access lower wholesale prices. We're also encouraging FSCs to establish farms producing their own supply of Quality Declared Seeds (QDS), and we're demonstrating how the use of expensive chemical fertilisers can be reduced with the introduction of organic bio stimulants.

We have delivered training in good climate-smart agricultural (CSA) practices and post-harvest handling of crops to FSCs and extension officers, who have trained lead farmers, who have shared their knowledge with 22,500 farmers on 184 demo plots. To help farmers prepare for possible flooding as a result of heavy El Niño rainfall, the training has emphasised soil and water management practices to avoid leaching.

By the end of December 2023, the proportion of farmers who had adopted at least one CSA practice had increased from 26% at the start of the project to 38%.

MARKET LINKS

FSCs act as the coordination point between supply and demand, helping link farmers to the service providers and buyers they need to run thriving farm businesses. To date, the

project has built connections between the farmers and FSCs and 80 different partners in the agriculture value chain ranging from buyers to financial institutions to input suppliers to research institutes.

The project supports FSCs to build trust with buyers through regular provision of accurate data on crop projection at different stages. We give farmers security by conducting due diligence on buyers, who will be engaged and committed to purchase through off-take agreements.

DIGITALISATION

We're supporting FSCs to adopt digital platforms that allow the exchange of real-time data and alerts on key activities, demand for inputs, demand aggregation, availability of produce, weather forecasts and agronomic advice.

The project has organised meetings in Manyara and Singida Regions between digital solutions service providers and the FSCs to showcase digital solutions used in areas such as business management, information sharing, farmers' database management, good agricultural practices and financial management. By December 2023, 27 FSCs had started to use digital solutions for business management.



With support from the project, 39-year-old Jenipher Fabian Mbuya from the Manyara region is earning a living and helping other farmers increase their yields by selling improved seeds and pesticides, and renting out her tractor and dehusking and shelling machine.



Photos: Farm Africa



Forty-six-year-old mother of seven Hajra Salim Adrea is a member of the Mipasiwa Farmers' Group in the Manyara Region. She oversees a maize demo plot that has delivered training to around 80 farmers in good agricultural practices including timely planting, the use of improved seed varieties, effective weed management, pesticide use, and post-harvest handling of crops.

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS



612,441 PEOPLE REACHED IN 2023



319,101

across 19 projects

Total number of people supported to improve their resilience to the effects of climate change.



167,339

across nine projects

Total number of people supported to improve access to agri-technologies, inputs and services.



188,921

across 12 projects

Total number of farmers supported to enhance their production practices.



967

across 12 projects

Total number of enterprises supported to enhance their operations for growth and sustainability.



26,034

across 13 projects

Total number of people and enterprises supported to improve their access to finance.



£922,343

across eight projects

Total amount of financing extended to individuals and businesses/enterprises.



“It’s true, I’m facing climate challenges, but with Farm Africa’s training, I’m able to survive.

I’ve trained to become a producer of quality declared sorghum seed, which is resilient to drought and gives a much higher yield. I’m now supplying seed to around 600 farmers.

With the extra income, I’m improving my house, expanding my farming and sending all my children to school. That makes me proud.”

Elizabeth Lenjima
Dodoma, Tanzania

FROM REFUGEE TO RISING ENTREPRENEUR

IN TURKANA COUNTY, KENYA, INVESTMENT IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IS HELPING DISPLACED PEOPLE ACHIEVE SELF-RELIANCE.

Riziki has been living with her young daughter in Kakuma refugee camp in Turkana County, Kenya since 2015, having fled DR Congo when she lost her home following the death of her husband in conflict. Like most, when she first arrived at the camp, Riziki struggled to meet her basic needs, surviving on one meal a day through the generosity of others.

Attaining self-reliance is no small challenge for anyone in a refugee situation, but those living in Kakuma face additional barriers. The arid environment makes agricultural production - even a home garden - difficult and the local population has effectively prohibited refugees from keeping livestock. Therefore, unusually for Farm Africa, in this rural area we supported refugees to develop non-agricultural livelihoods.

RISING FROM THE ASHES

Despite her limited options, Riziki was determined to improve her small family's circumstances. In 2017, she joined a women's weaving group and started making baskets for sale. Then she joined a table banking group where she began saving part of the money she got from basket selling. When the group shared out funds in 2018, she received 50,000 Kenyan shillings, which she used to start a secondhand clothes business in Kakuma 4.

It didn't take long for Riziki to spot another business opportunity. The majority of secondhand clothes sellers at the camp sourced their stock through unscrupulous dealers in Nairobi who required payment up front and frequently failed to deliver. Expanding her business to wholesaling

would be profitable for her and also benefit her fellow retailers. However, she lacked the funds she needed to buy bales of secondhand clothes in bulk. Then, in 2022, Riziki discovered the Displaced and Refugee Youth Enabling Environment Mechanism (DREEM) Innovation Fund.

THE GIFT OF OPPORTUNITY

The DREEM Innovation Fund is part of the DREEM project, led by the World University Service of Canada (WUSC). This project aims to address the challenges faced by small businesses in and near the Kakuma and Kalobeyi refugee camps in northern Kenya. The fund provides financial and business development support to selected entrepreneurs living in the refugee camps or their host communities.

As a DREEM project partner, Farm Africa has been providing tailored mentorship to these selected small enterprises, ensuring they gain the expertise and financial support they need to generate both revenue and local jobs. Launched in August 2022, the fund aimed to mentor at least 70 aspiring entrepreneurs. By the end of 2023, no less than 105 people had received mentorship, leading to the creation of 82 new jobs as enterprises took off.

Within this time, the average annual revenue of the participating businesses increased by 44%. Feedback from participants attributed these gains to their improved marketing skills, financial management and ability to track sales, revenue and profits. A total of 70% of the entrepreneurs reported to have expanded their businesses through addition of new products or services and increasing the range of stock. For example, a hotel increased its revenue by selling fresh juice, an early childhood education facility was able to accept more children by building a new classroom and a retail shop expanded its sales potential by opening a new branch.

DARING TO DREAM

And Riziki? First, she used her DREEM innovation funds to buy enough stock to open a new secondhand retail shop in Kakuma 3, because she could see there was strong demand here. Then she combined the profits she made from this shop with her own savings to convert the shop into a wholesale shop. Through this expansion, she has been able to hire three full-time sales people and a delivery driver. She has also diversified into mobile sales, dispatching five part-time staff to the large refugee crowds that gather every month to receive their food rations.

She credits her success to the DREEM Innovation Fund and the business mentorship she received from Farm Africa.



“The training helped me know the essence of maintaining a cash register and also doing the daily sales, expenses and profit/loss, which I never did before. With this I now know how to budget my income, do allocations appropriately based on the fast-moving goods and how to diversify my products and services to grow my business.”

Riziki



“I never imagined I would get this far and also change the lives of those around me. This really gives me joy.”

Peter, a resident of the town of Kakuma, who has opened a thriving electronics shop and employed 15 young men, four of whom are refugees.

Riziki now owns two resale clothing shops and employs nine people.



FUELLING SUSTAINABLE COFFEE PRODUCTION IN ETHIOPIA

COMMUNITIES IN ETHIOPIA'S ILU ABABOR ZONE ARE USING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY ENTERPRISE TO RESHAPE THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FOREST.



PERFORMANCE TO BE PROUD OF

Three years on, these communities have much to be proud of. When the project started, only 73% of coffee being produced by the participating cooperatives was able to meet quality standards for export. By the end of 2023, that percentage had risen to 99%, with 44% attaining the prestigious 'Specialty' grade. Average incomes earned from coffee had also nearly doubled - from 24,659 Ethiopian birr (ETB) per household at the start of the project to ETB 42,611 by the end of 2023.

Mulugeta Teffese, president of Abdi Bori Participatory Forest Management Cooperative (PFMC) attributes the change to the technical and business skills he developed and the market connections the project helped the cooperative make:

"Before, we had limited knowledge to sell our coffee in the national and international market. As a result, we were forced to sell our coffee to local traders at lower prices, which made us price takers. Now, I track international coffee prices daily online and use the information to decide buying and selling prices based on the trends. I do the same for my cooperative and we are successful."

Other forest-friendly enterprises have performed well too. Average annual household income from honey production

has risen by 56% from ETB 3,564 in 2021 to ETB 5,549 in 2023 and income from vegetable production more than doubled from ETB 1,245 in 2021 to ETB 2,759 in 2023.

The forest has also benefitted. With six newly established nurseries supplying a steady supply of seedlings, over 3,840 hectares of deforested land have been replanted and 20 woodlots have been established. Fuel-efficient stove usage has also increased from 18% to 29% of households. By the end of 2023, there were 19 community-led forest management cooperatives operating across the four woredas, comprising over 4,328 members and protecting 40,807 hectares of forest.

Like all of the project cooperatives, Abdi Bori PFMC is committed to conserving the environment. In 2023, the cooperative secured an Organic and National Organic Programme licence, highlighting the group's dedication to sustainable practice. Later that year, they were awarded a trophy and certificate of recognition for exceptional performance in forest management and livelihood improvement from the Oromia Region Environment Protection Authority.

The remarkable transformation achieved in Ale, Becho, Didu and Metu Zuria woredas has truly been a group effort. In total, 5,368 people participated in the project, and their efforts have benefitted an estimated 30,632 people.

Western Ethiopia's Ilu Ababor Zone is a land of lush vegetation, dramatic waterfalls and rich cultural history. Its montane forests teem with biodiversity and give rise to the rivers that sustain the lowland areas of the region. Ethiopia's renowned Arabica coffee grows naturally here and provides an important source of income for the people who live in this area.

Yet this is a forest in jeopardy. Sustainable livelihood opportunities are few in this remote landscape and people rely on the forest for many essential resources, including fuelwood, timber, livestock forage and fertile soil to grow crops. Poor access to markets, a growing population, climate change and a lack of technical and business expertise are pushing that reliance beyond sustainable limits.

As the forest is driven into decline, the people who rely on it are being driven into poverty.

A DRIVE FOR FOREST-FRIENDLY ENTERPRISE

Since 2018, Farm Africa has been helping communities across Ilu Ababor Zone reshape their relationship with the forest. In 2021, with the communities of Ale, Becho, Didu and Metu Zuria woredas, we embarked on a focused project to help improve livelihood opportunities by developing forest-friendly enterprises.

A major focus has been to help forest coffee producers sustainably boost their incomes by improving coffee quality, productivity, business practices and access to markets. Working through existing cooperatives, support has included technical and business training, infrastructure development and improving access to finance.

Additional forest-friendly enterprises have also been explored. To capitalise on the abundant forest flora, beekeeping has been developed. To help people improve productivity on their own land, agroforestry and climate-smart farming techniques have been promoted. As a green solution to fuelwood shortages, fast-growing woodlots and energy-efficient stove production enterprises have been introduced.

A CONSERVATION FOCUS

With widespread reliance on the forest comes a desire to protect it, but achieving that vision takes public organisation and planning. To help communities agree and implement conservation initiatives, resource management training has been provided to 19 community-led forest management cooperatives and over 400 local government officials. Topics ranged from law enforcement to nursery management to effective use of geographic information systems (GIS).



"Now, I track international coffee prices daily online and use the information to decide buying and selling prices based on the trends. I do the same for my cooperative and we are successful."

Mulugeta Teffese, wholesale coffee producer and president of Abdi Bori Participatory Forest Management Cooperative

THE WAITROSE FOUNDATION

HOW RENEWABLE ENERGY, AGROFORESTRY AND TABLE BANKING ARE HELPING VEGETABLE AND FLOWER GROWERS IN KENYA BUILD RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

For many years, smallholder farmers in Kenya have faced challenges including land degradation, declining soil fertility and limited access to agricultural training. Climate change has exacerbated these challenges, causing low agricultural productivity, food insecurity, poor nutrition and job losses due to a fall in demand for labour.

As part of our partnership to improve the lives of farmers and farm workers who grow, pick and pack vegetables and flowers sold by Waitrose, the Waitrose Foundation and Farm Africa are running a climate resilience project in the Mount Kenya, South Rift and North Rift regions of Kenya. The project, which ran from August 2022 to June 2024, has helped approximately 4,500 flower growers mitigate the impact of climate change and rising living costs. The farmers and growers decided which initiatives received investment.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

At the start of the project, farmers and farm workers told us that electricity and firewood were the main sources of energy used for lighting and cooking at home and those living off-grid used kerosene and candles. Kerosene and electricity are expensive, and firewood collection is leading to deforestation, as well as being arduous and time-consuming for women, stopping them from engaging in other activities. Cooking with firewood on traditional three-stone stoves is very smoky, contributing to a high incidence of respiratory diseases.

The project helped farm workers and farmers to both save money and protect the environment by switching to renewable, clean energy. Solar technologies were adopted for use in farming (such as solar-

powered water pumps, crop dryers and poultry brooders) and for lighting and powering homes. For cooking, 1,275 energy-saving cooking stoves have been distributed, reducing demand for firewood and charcoal, along with 200 fireless cookers and five installed cookers that use biogas derived from livestock and vegetable waste.

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

Diversification of income sources helps farmers and farm workers reduce the risk extreme weather poses to their livelihoods. We are helping communities to preserve their livelihoods, whilst also protecting the environment, by taking up economically-viable activities such as poultry rearing, beekeeping and agroforestry.

Subdivision of farming land has substantially reduced tree cover in rural Kenya, however, these trees had many benefits for farmers. Trees can act as boundaries and wind breakers, prevent soil erosion, conserve water, sequester carbon and provide timber, fuel and fruits that households can use themselves or sell. We have therefore been supporting the planting of indigenous trees alongside cash crops.

The project set up six tree nurseries that have produced more than a million tree seedlings for sale. We also provided farmers with more than 22,000 tree seedlings and supplied six schools with 2,000 indigenous tree and fruit seedlings to support reforestation as well as provide a source of healthy fruit for pupils to eat.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Financial literacy training has helped farmers and farm workers prepare to deal with income fluctuations associated

with short-term contracts or climate-related variations in yields. We delivered training to help participants manage their finances and invest in their future. We have also supported the establishment and implementation of 100 village savings and loan associations (VSLAs) who are now doing table banking and offering loans to their members. To date the members have saved 3.4 million Kenyan Shillings (KSh), while loans totalling 2 million KSh have been issued to 1,916 members.

GENDER EQUITY

Female farmers face additional barriers with the adoption of climate-smart practices, including time spent on domestic chores, male dominance of leadership roles in farming, lack of land ownership, the high costs of farming inputs, and lack of knowledge.

Building on the initial project plan we have included a strong gender focus supported by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)'s Work and

Opportunities for Women (WOW) programme. This provided additional support to help women overcome these barriers and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Training in gender and social norms was delivered to 2,640 men and 3,019 women alongside training in renewable energy, agroforestry and financial literacy, creating awareness about the need to engage women in income-generating activities and collective decision making in their households.

For example, at the beginning of a week's training course in the construction of fuel-efficient cooking stoves, 33 out of 36 female participants viewed such work as the preserve of men. By the end of the week, all 36 women agreed women could be artisans too.

THIRD SECTOR AWARDS

In May 2023, the Waitrose Foundation and Farm Africa won the 'Food & Beverage Charity Partnership of the Year' award at the Third Sector Business Charity Awards held in London. The judges commented: "A wonderful initiative. This is a good example of what all food and beverage retailers should be doing to ensure sustainability right through the supply chain."



Photo: Farm Africa



1,275

fuel-efficient cookstoves were given to workers in 2023.

THANK YOU

AGRA, Agricultural Markets Development Trust, Allen & Overy, ABP UK, Aldi, Barfoots, Danida, Driscoll's, European Union, Farm to Market Alliance, Forests of the World, GIZ, Hartree Environmental Development, IKEA Foundation, Irish Aid, Jersey Overseas Aid Commission, John Thompson & Sons, Mastercard Foundation, Medicor Foundation, The Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa,

Norad, Oxford Policy Management, Pilgrim's Europe, Rabobank Foundation, Royal Norwegian Embassy Addis Ababa, R H Amar, S'ABLE Labs, Sainsbury's, Sida, Sulney Fields Charitable Trust, UGACOF, Uganda Coffee Development Authority, UN Women, Virunga Foundation, W&R Barnett, Waitrose Foundation, Welland Charitable Trust, William Reed Business Media, World Food Programme.



We are also grateful for the vital and instrumental support we received from many trusts, foundations and individuals.

OUR THANKS TO FARM AFRICA'S FOOD FOR GOOD MEMBERS IN 2023:



FINANCIAL SUMMARY



- Programme grants: £9.0 million
- Donations and legacies: £1.8 million
- Trading and other: £0.17 million

INCOME

Farm Africa receives income principally from three sources:

- Grants from governments, institutions and other major donors to fund specific projects (restricted funding)
- Corporate sponsorship income via our trading subsidiary Farm Africa Trading Limited (unrestricted funding)
- Donations, legacies, and other fundraising activities (unrestricted funding)

Total income in 2023 was £11.0m (2022: £14.7m). The decrease reflects some large grants ending and the timing of receipts of new grants, with a significant amount of new grant income expected to be recognised in 2024. Programme grants remained the largest funding stream at £9m (2022: £11.9m).

A decrease in donations and legacies to £1.8m (2022: £2.6m) reflects a reduction in legacy income, which was exceptionally high in 2022, and a reduction in income from appeals. This was partially offset by an increase in income from fundraising events, including the very successful Mahale Mountains Trek in Tanzania.



- Programmes: £12.5 million
- Support costs: £1.11 million
- Fundraising: £0.7 million

EXPENDITURE

Farm Africa's expenditure falls into three main categories:

- Direct costs of implementing programmes in eastern Africa
- Fundraising costs
- Support costs, including head office staff and governance

Total expenditure in 2023 was £14.3m (2022: £14.6m). Programme spend decreased by £0.7m to £12.5m (2022: £13.2m) due to major projects in Ethiopia ending, disruption due to conflict in Ethiopia and changes in exchange rates. There was a rise in programme expenditure in Kenya and Tanzania, as we continue to diversify Farm Africa's grant funding portfolio. Support costs increased by £0.36m to £1.11m (2022: £0.75m) due to inflation and investment in new roles. Fundraising costs remained at £0.7m (2022: £0.7m).

RESERVES

Farm Africa's unrestricted reserves on 31 December 2023 were £1.4m and its closing restricted reserves were £1.75m. The unrestricted reserves of Farm Africa of £1.4m compares to our target of £2.5m. Farm Africa's unrestricted reserves have risen from £1m in 2021 to their current level of £1.4m. The year 2023 presented challenges for the organisation, with volatile exchange rates and cost pressures, and therefore it was not possible to build reserves in 2023, however it is anticipated target reserves will be reached by the end of 2025.

Patron: Sir Michael Palin CBE
Ambassadors: Kate Adie OBE, Judith Batchelar OBE, Minette Batters, General Sir Peter de la Billière, KCB KBE DSO MC DL, Ashley Palmer-Watts, Charles Reed

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Chair: John Reizenstein
Treasurer: Nick Allen, Colin Brereton (retired Sept 2023), Serena Brown, Ken Caldwell, François Jay (appointed Sept 2023), Julian Marks, Laketch Mikael

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FARM AFRICA

OUR MISSION

To promote sustainable agricultural practices, strengthen markets and protect the environment in rural Africa.



OUR VISION

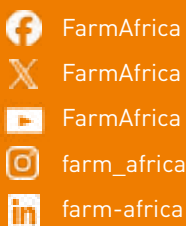
A resilient rural Africa where people and the environment thrive.



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Front cover photo: Mass propagation of high-quality fruit, coffee and native tree seedlings at community nurseries in Ethiopia's Bale Eco-region are making it easier for farmers to increase the number of trees on their farmland.

Photo: Farm Africa / Medhanit Gebremichael



Photo: Farm Africa / Medhanit Gebremichael

"The park has been inscribed in our hearts and minds. As you can see, it's not fenced with wire or any wooden material, but all members of the cooperative, men or women, elders or youngsters, are protecting it."

Ade Rameto, a member of Mansa cooperative, which has rejuvenated long barren lands at Ethiopia's Abijatta-Shalla Lakes National Park for the mutual benefit of local people and wildlife.