

Implementation Updates on Action Items from the Food Systems Changemakers Conference 2022

One of the main objectives of the 2022 Sahel Food Systems Changemakers' Conference was to facilitate the development of a clear road map for multistakeholder collaboration to curtail the existential food crisis in Nigeria. This was achieved by identifying critical solution-driven action points to be delivered by key actors across the different breakout groups we had; Primary production, Food processing, Nutrition, safety and security, trade and export, distribution and logistics, livestock, equity and inclusion, and scaling agribusinesses.

The roadmap developed after the conference has been attached separately for reference.

We have remained in touch with our partners to obtain updates on the progress of their commitments thus far.

Please find below some high-level updates;

Nutrition Commitments

- GAIN has launched a digitized QA/QC system to ensure that food processors adequately fortify their products with the right vitamins and minerals.
- Under the SNIPS project, GAIN is working with smallholder farmers to scale up the production of biofortified crops such as maize.

Improving the Livestock Sector.

- Sahel Consulting committed to organizing convenings to raise awareness and investment in the Nigerian livestock sector.
 - Sahel is co-planning the 2nd National Animal Feed Summit in collaboration with FMARD and CJID. This is scheduled to be conducted in March 2023.
 - Sahel and CODARAN will co-organize the annual World Milk Day in Q2 of this year. This event will bring together key stakeholders to discuss current issues and recommendations.
- Delifrost committed to Identifying and granting more smallholder farmers access to the formal market. So far, the company has commenced its operations in Niger State which is engaging smallholder dairy farmers to offtake their milk for processing. Sahel is also exploring a partnership with the company under the ALDDN program to support backward integration and promote local dairy sourcing.

Starting and Saling Reslieint Agribusiness

- African Food Changemakers (AFC) committed to organising mentoring and handholding programs for food and agric start-ups. So far, AFC is implementing Building Resilience Against Climate and Environmental Shocks (BRACE) program, a one-year capacity development program for agri-food business owners to learn adaptive mechanisms to protect their businesses against external shocks.
- Sahel Capital pledged to organize a convening for heads of agriculture at major banks and insurance companies on how to better fund agribusinesses. Sahel Capital hosted an Investor Conference in Lagos from the 22nd to the 24th of November 2022. This conference gathered the main investors in Sahel Capital's maiden fund—FAFIN: KfW Development Bank, the African Development Bank, British International Investment, and Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority and critical issues and gaps in agricultural funding and investor's understanding of the appropriate structure of agribusiness funding were discussed.

We would be happy to discuss any of these points further or put you in touch with the implementing partners.

Once again, thank you for your interest, and we look forward to presenting our plans for the 2023 Sahel Changemakers' Conference and partnering with GIZ.