CATER AND MERGER CONSULT UK, WITH FACULTY PARTNERS’

**PROPOSAL TO**

**African Development Bank (ADFB) In Partnership with   
Agro-Allied Commodities and Service Producers (Nig.) Ltd.**

**ON**

**Empowering Agro-Allied Entrepreneurs for Sustainable Agricultural Growth**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Purpose and Scope**:

In the dynamic landscape of agriculture, it's imperative to blend traditional wisdom with innovative techniques, especially in the context of addressing climate change and ensuring food security. With this in mind, we introduce a transformative initiative tailored for the Agro-Allied Commodities and Service Producers (Nig.) Ltd. With a membership comprising 324 individuals across Nigeria's six geopolitical zones, including Abuja, this program aims to equip participants with advanced skills and knowledge in cassava and rice farming. Through strategic partnerships and expert guidance, we aspire to elevate agricultural practices, fostering resilience and sustainability in the face of evolving environmental challenges.

**Plan:**

The Cassava and Rice Farming Training Program for the 324 members of the Agro-Allied Commodities and Service Producers (Nig.) Ltd. is structured to ensure maximum impact and relevance to participants' needs. The program will unfold in the following phases:

**Preparation and Participant Selection**: Prior to the commencement of the training, an extensive outreach will be conducted to nominate deserving members from the Agro-Allied Commodities and Service Producers (Nig.) Ltd. A transparent selection process will be implemented to ensure inclusivity and diversity across geographical regions and demographic profiles.

**Customized Curriculum Development**: A team of experts will collaborate to develop a tailored curriculum focusing on cassava and rice farming, encompassing both theoretical foundations and practical applications. The curriculum will integrate the latest advancements in agricultural science, climate-smart practices, and technological innovations relevant to the participants' context.

**Training Delivery**: The training program will be conducted through a series of interactive workshops, field demonstrations, and hands-on sessions facilitated by experienced agronomists, agricultural engineers, and agribusiness professionals. Participants will have the opportunity to engage directly with modern farming equipment, agritech solutions, and sustainable farming techniques.

**Technology Integration**: Participants will be introduced to innovative agritech solutions and digital tools aimed at enhancing productivity, resource efficiency, and market access. Emphasis will be placed on leveraging blockchain technology to optimize supply chain management and ensure transparency in trade and investment.

**Government Policies and Support**: Special sessions will be dedicated to examining existing government policies and initiatives related to food production and security. Participants will gain insights into available support schemes, grants, and incentives aimed at promoting agricultural development and entrepreneurship.

**Project Overview:**

The Cassava and Rice Farming Training Program, organized by C&M Consult UK in collaboration with esteemed faculty members and strategic alliances within the agro-allied sector, is designed to empower 324 members of the Agro-Allied Commodities and Service Producers (Nig.) Ltd. The program will offer comprehensive training in modern farming methodologies, agritech systems, and climate-resilient practices tailored specifically for cassava and rice cultivation. By leveraging cutting-edge technologies and expert insights, participants will gain the skills needed to optimize production, mitigate risks, and contribute to national food security objectives. This initiative not only aligns with the strategic goals of ADFB but also underscores the importance of public-private partnerships in advancing sustainable agricultural development.

Would you like to proceed with detailing the program objectives, methodologies, and expected outcomes next?

**Program Objectives:**

The Agricultural Youth Empowerment Program has been meticulously designed to achieve the following objectives:

1. **Skill Enhancement:** Equip young participants with practical skills and knowledge in fish farming, rice cultivation, and cassava production, enabling them to become proficient farmers capable of implementing sustainable agricultural practices.
2. **Entrepreneurial Spirit:** Foster an entrepreneurial mindset among the youth, empowering them to establish their own agribusinesses and contribute to local economies.
3. **Environmental Stewardship:** Promote sustainable farming techniques that minimize environmental impact, ensuring the long-term health of ecosystems and the preservation of natural resources.
4. **Community Engagement:** Encourage youth to actively engage with their communities, share their newfound expertise, and play a role in enhancing local food security.
5. **Innovation Integration:** Introduce participants to innovative technologies and methodologies that can enhance traditional farming practices, improving productivity and efficiency.

**Program expectations:**

**Benefits for Agro-Allied Commodities and Service Producers (Nig.) Ltd Members:**

**Gain Insight into New and Advanced Farming Methods**: Participants will be exposed to the latest advancements in cassava and rice farming techniques, enabling them to enhance productivity and efficiency on their farms.

**Access to Cutting-edge Agritech Systems**: The program will introduce participants to innovative agricultural technologies tailored for cassava and rice cultivation, equipping them with tools to streamline operations and optimize resource utilization.

**Adoption of Systematic Farming Approaches:** Through systematic approaches, attendees will learn strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change on agriculture, including decarbonization efforts and resilience-building measures.

**Integration of New Innovative Agricultural Machinery**: Participants will have the opportunity to explore and understand the functionality of modern agricultural machinery designed to improve farm operations and yield outcomes.

**Insight into Blockchain and Climate Change Dynamics on Trade and Investment Trends**: The program will provide a comprehensive understanding of blockchain technology in agriculture, as well as insights into how climate change dynamics impact trade and investment trends in the sector.

**Emphasis on Government Policies on Food Production and Security**: The training will include discussions on relevant government policies pertaining to food production and security, enabling participants to align their farming practices with national objectives and regulatory framework

**Program Methodologies**

1. Workshops and Training Sessions: Expert-led workshops will cover a range of topics, including aquaculture management, rice paddy preparation, cassava cultivation techniques.
2. Technology Integration: Participants will explore how modern technologies such as precision agriculture, irrigation systems, and data analysis can be integrated into traditional farming practices for improved efficiency and output.
3. Business and Marketing Training: Entrepreneurial aspects of the program will include lessons on agribusiness management, market analysis, and branding, enabling participants to turn their farming endeavours into profitable ventures.
4. The team will regularly follow up with trained participants and offer mentorship and support.

**TARGET AUDIENCE:**

Youth aged 18 to 40. with an interest in agriculture, including those with limited farming experience and those looking to start their agribusiness ventures.

**Program Content Outline**

**Module 1: Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture**

* The importance of sustainable agriculture
* Overview of fish farming, rice cultivation, and cassava production
* Environmental impact and conservation in agriculture

**Module 2: Fundamentals of Fish Farming**

* Aquaculture basics and principles
* Types of fish suitable for farming
* Pond preparation and management
* Feeding, health, and disease management
* Practical hands-on fish farming exercises

**Module 3: Mastering Rice Cultivation**

* Rice varieties and selection
* Land preparation and water management.
* Pest and weed control.
* Harvesting and post-harvest handling
* Field visits to operational rice paddies

**Module 4: Excelling in Cassava Production**

* Cassava varieties and cultivation techniques
* Soil preparation and planting
* Pest and disease management
* Harvesting, processing, and value addition
* Visiting thriving cassava fields

**Module 5: Sustainable Practices and Technology Integration**

* Conservation agriculture techniques
* Efficient use of water resources
* Introduction to precision agriculture
* Data-driven decision-making in farming
* Hands-on experience with modern farming tools

**Module 6: Agribusiness Development**

* Creating a viable agribusiness plan
* Market research and analysis
* Branding and marketing strategies
* Value chain understanding
* Financial management for agribusiness

The content outline for the Agricultural Youth Empowerment Program encompasses a diverse range of topics, from foundational agricultural principles to practical hands-on experiences, agribusiness development, and community engagement. The modules are designed to provide a comprehensive and well-rounded education that prepares youth for successful and sustainable careers in fish farming, rice cultivation, and cassava production while fostering a deep sense of responsibility towards the environment and their communities.

**CERTIFICATION AND INVESTMENT**

* **At the end of the training programme, each participant will be presented with a certificate summarizing the skills they have acquired during the course.**
* **Each participant will be presented with Startup package that includes**

**Cash grant of N100,000 each.**

**Fish Farming -Fish fingerlings, Boosters, Plastic/tarpaulin ponds.**

**Rice farming – Rice Paddies**

**Cassava Farming - an improved species of cassava stem**

**BUDGET PROPOSAL**

**The cost for this program is N500,000 (Five Hundred thousand naira only) per person/participant. This fee covers cost of resource persons, Training Materials, Certificates, Venue, lunch and cash grant.**

**ACCOUNT PAYABLE:**

**NAIRA ACCOUNT DETAILS:  
ACCOUNT NAME: CATER AND MERGER CONSULT NIG LTD.   
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 1593434447  
BANK: ACCESS BANK PLC**

**Full payment is expected three weeks before the start of the training program**

**Expected Outcomes:**

1. **Skilful Farmers:** Participants will gain the skills necessary to successfully manage fish farms, rice paddies, and cassava fields, becoming proficient in various aspects of agricultural production.
2. **Agripreneurs:** Graduates of the program will possess the knowledge and confidence to establish their own agribusinesses, contributing to job creation and economic growth in their communities.
3. **Environmental Impact:** By adopting sustainable practices, participants will actively contribute to environmental conservation, reducing the negative impacts of traditional farming methods.
4. **Knowledge Sharing:** Empowered youth will act as agricultural ambassadors, sharing their expertise with their peers and older generations, facilitating the transfer of knowledge and skills.
5. **Food Security:** The program will enhance local food security by increasing the availability of diverse and nutritious crops within communities.

**Program Potential Impact:**

The impact of the Agricultural Youth Empowerment Program extends far beyond its immediate participants. By equipping youth with the skills to engage in sustainable agriculture, the program lays the groundwork for the following outcomes:

1. **Community Resilience:** Empowered youth will help build more resilient communities capable of producing their own food and generating sustainable livelihoods.
2. **Rural-Urban Migration Reduction:** The attractiveness of agribusiness as a viable career path can stem the tide of rural youth migrating to urban centres in search of job opportunities.
3. **Economic Growth:** Increased agricultural productivity and the emergence of new agribusinesses can contribute to local economic growth and poverty reduction.
4. **Sustainable Agriculture Advocacy:** Youth who graduate from the program will become advocates for sustainable farming practices, influencing wider adoption across their regions.
5. **Global Food Security:** By fostering sustainable practices, the program contributes to the global challenge of feeding a growing population while conserving natural resources.
6. Strengthening local economies by reducing rural-urban migration and creating sustainable livelihoods.
7. Fostering a new generation of environmentally conscious farmers who prioritize sustainability.
8. Empowering youth to contribute to global food security by practicing efficient and diverse agricultural methods.
9. Building a network of young agricultural entrepreneurs who collaborate, share knowledge, and collectively drive positive change.
10. Inspiring the broader community to recognize the potential of agriculture as a rewarding and impactful career choice.

In conclusion, the Agricultural Youth Empowerment Program is not just a program—it is a pathway towards a more sustainable and prosperous future. By investing in the education and empowerment of our youth, we are cultivating a generation of skilled farmers and agripreneurs who will shape the agricultural landscape for years to come, creating a ripple effect of positive change within their communities and beyond.

**Who We Are**

**Cater and Merger consult UK** is a management and human development consulting company based in the United Kingdom, with a strong presence in Nigeria, and an extensive network of partners, in the business community, academia, civic leadership, developmental agencies and the civil society, we have the capacity to meet our client’s needs across the continents of Europe, Africa and the United Kingdom with the following services:

* Trade and Investment Mission Summits
* Corporate and political Media Image management
* Professional and Human Capacity development
* Strategy thinking and solution-based youth development trainings for effective leadership, Inter-Parliamentary exchange and engagement.
* Legislative and Good Governance Training Workshops

Focusing on our mission on building strategic partnerships and relationships, through constructive dialogue and cooperation resulting to good business for economic growth, democratic peace and good governance, we have consistently aimed to bridge the gap between politics and business via policy making and direction, by facilitating trade and investment delegation, legislative exchanges, human capacity development, strategic relations between governments and corporations across Europe, and Africa.

We believe that the world of politics and business are intricately linked and as such we have served as a base for interlinks across corporate and civic powerhouse in the continents through our annual London Political Summit organised every year and the Trade and Investment Mission attracting key political leaders, business leaders, ambassadors and civil society leaders from various national governments and multi-national corporations from within and out the United Kingdom.

Through our various forums and activities, we have been able to achieve great success in understanding trading and investment potentials, political discourse on democratic peace, and developmental strategies. We hope to achieve more, working in collaboration with our partners and faculty members, in facilitating strategic engagements and human capacity development for effective leadership and good governance.

For Further Enquiries, Kindly Contact:

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POWERED BY:

CATER AND MERGER CONSULT UK.