

UN DECADE YOUTH TASK FORCE MICROGRANT

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN: Sustainable Farmland Solutions in Plateau State, Nigeria

PROJECT INFORMATION

Field	Details
Project Title	Sustainable Farmland Productivity Enhancement for Small-Scale Farmers in Plateau State, Nigeria
Project Lead	Andrew Seyilnen Michael
Organization	Gwomshar Community Initiative / Enriched Our Farmland
Financial Officer	Dr. Henry Katniyon David
Contact Email	<u>seyithankgod@gmail.com</u>
Phone (with country code)	+234 7066021011
Project Duration	12 months (6-month intensive, 6-month monitoring)
Grant Amount	USD 1,000
Target Location	Plateau State, Nigeria
Target Beneficiaries	15-20 small-scale farmers & 200-300 community members

PROJECT GOAL

To enhance farmland productivity and sustainability among small-scale farmers in Plateau State by introducing improved farming techniques, soil conservation practices, and sustainable water management, while building farmers' capacity to maintain long-term environmental stewardship and food security.

PROJECT OUTCOMES & ACTIVITIES TIMELINE

PHASE 1: PROJECT SETUP & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (Months 1-2)

OUTCOME 1: Organizational Readiness & Community Mobilization

Organizations and community partners meet to collaborate, set clear objectives, and establish framework for community engagement

Activities:

1. Project Team Establishment & Planning Meeting

- Duration: Week 1-2
- Team roles assignment (Project Lead, Coordinator, Community Liaison, Tech Advisor)
- Budget review and financial management protocols
- Partner coordination meeting with Plateau State Ministry of Agriculture
- Status: In Progress → Complete

2. Community Stakeholder Engagement

- Duration: Week 2-4
- Meet with traditional rulers and community leaders
- Secure land access for demonstrations
- Introduce project objectives to farmer groups
- Get community buy-in and commitment letters
- Status: In Progress → Complete

3. Beneficiary Selection & Registration

- Duration: Week 3-4
- Identify 15-20 target farmers based on criteria (land ownership, commitment, diversity)
- Register beneficiaries with baseline information
- Conduct initial farmland assessment
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

4. Partnership Formalization

- Duration: Week 2-3
- Sign MOUs with Plateau State Ministry of Agriculture
- Confirm support from IITA or university partners
- Establish farmer cooperative partnerships

- Status: Not Started → In Progress
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PHASE 2: CAPACITY BUILDING & RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION (Months 2-5)

OUTCOME 2: Farmer Capacity Enhancement Through Training

Farmers equipped with knowledge and skills in sustainable farming practices, soil health, and water management

Activities:

1. Baseline Assessment & Farmer Training Workshop 1: Soil Health

- Duration: Month 2, Week 1-4
- Conduct comprehensive baseline survey (soil quality, water sources, current practices)
- Training on soil testing, organic amendments, and conservation practices
- Distribute soil testing kits and training materials
- Hands-on demonstration on sample farm plots
- Attendance: 15-20 farmers + 5-10 community members
- Status: Not Started → In Progress → Complete

2. Training Workshop 2: Sustainable Water Management

- Duration: Month 3, Week 1-3
- Assessment of water sources and irrigation challenges
- Training on efficient irrigation techniques (drip, mulching)
- Water harvesting and storage solutions
- Practical demonstration at farmer sites
- Status: Not Started → In Progress → Complete

3. Training Workshop 3: Improved Crop Varieties & Planting Techniques

- Duration: Month 4, Week 1-3
- Introduction to drought-resistant crop varieties
- Proper seed selection and preparation
- Planting demonstrations on target farms
- Distribution of improved seeds to farmers
- Status: Not Started → In Progress → Complete

4. Community Nursery Establishment

- Duration: Month 2-5 (ongoing)
- Establish tree nursery for erosion control & agroforestry
- Train farmers in nursery management
- Prepare seedlings for planting season
- Status: Not Started → In Progress → Continue

5. Farmer Learning Exchange Visit (Optional, if budget allows)

- Duration: Month 4, Week 3-4
 - Visit established sustainable farm in neighboring state
 - Learn from farmer-to-farmer experience
 - Build networks and peer support
 - Status: Not Started → In Progress
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PHASE 3: IMPLEMENTATION & PRACTICAL SUPPORT (Months 5-10)

OUTCOME 3: Farmers Successfully Implementing Sustainable Practices

Target farmers actively applying soil conservation, improved farming, and water management techniques on their farmlands

Activities:

1. Farmer-Led Demonstrations on Field Plots

- Duration: Month 5-8 (ongoing)
- Support farmers to prepare demonstration plots on their land
- Provide hands-on support during soil preparation
- Monitor plant growth and crop performance
- Document progress with photos/videos
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

2. Monthly Farm Monitoring & Technical Support Visits

- Duration: Month 2-10 (monthly)
- Project coordinator visits each farmer site monthly
- Assess progress, identify challenges, provide advice
- Troubleshoot issues with crop health or water management
- Maintain detailed monitoring records
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

3. Peer Farmer Training Groups

- Duration: Month 5-9 (bi-weekly)
- Establish farmer learning groups (3-4 groups of 5-6 farmers)
- Peer-to-peer knowledge sharing sessions
- Lead farmers mentor newer farmers
- Strengthen community bonds and sustainability
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

4. Agroforestry Implementation

- Duration: Month 5-9
- Distribute tree seedlings to farmers
- Organize community tree-planting days
- Trees: nitrogen-fixing species, fruit trees, timber
- Support farmers in spacing and maintenance
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

5. School & Youth Engagement Activities

- Duration: Month 5-8
- Conduct farm talks at local schools
- Engage youth in project activities
- Create school garden demonstrations
- Document engagement and learning
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

PHASE 4: MONITORING, DOCUMENTATION & SUSTAINABILITY (Months 8-12)

OUTCOME 4: Project Close-Out & Sustainability Planning

Documented results, lessons learned captured, and farmer groups positioned for long-term sustainability without external support

Activities:

1. Mid-Project Evaluation & Impact Assessment (Month 8)

- Duration: Month 8, Week 1-3
- Conduct mid-term survey with farmers

- Measure yield improvements and soil health changes
- Assess adoption rates and challenges
- Stakeholder feedback gathering
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

2. Community Feedback & Adaptive Management

- Duration: Month 8-10 (ongoing)
- Farmer feedback sessions on project effectiveness
- Adjust strategies based on community input
- Document lessons learned
- Share successes and challenges with stakeholders
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

3. Sustainability Planning & Farmer Handover

- Duration: Month 9-11
- Develop farmer group sustainability strategy
- Establish farmer cooperative for continued support
- Create operational manuals for best practices
- Transition from external to community-led management
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

4. Final Documentation & Impact Reporting

- Duration: Month 10-12
- Collect final outcome data (yield, soil, water, income)
- Document case studies from 3-5 farmer success stories
- Compile photos, videos, and testimonials
- Prepare comprehensive project report for UN DECADE
- Status: Not Started → In Progress

5. Project Close-Out & Celebration

- Duration: Month 11-12, Week 3-4
- Organize community celebration event
- Recognize farmer leaders and participants
- Distribute certificates and small incentives
- Share lessons learned with broader community
- Present findings to stakeholders

- Status: Not Started → In Progress → Complete

6. Post-Project Monitoring Plan (Beyond 12 months)

- Duration: Month 12 onwards
 - Establish quarterly check-in visits (6-12 months)
 - Support farmer network sustainability
 - Document longer-term impacts
 - Prepare case study for publication/sharing
 - Status: Planning Phase
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DETAILED MONTHLY TIMELINE & MILESTONES

Month	Phase	Key Activities	Lead Person	Budget Allocation	Status
Month 1	Setup	Team formation, stakeholder meetings, site selection	Project Lead	\$50	Planning
Month 2	Capacity Building	Baseline survey, Training 1 (Soil), Community nursery setup	Coordinator	\$180	Execution
Month 3	Capacity Building	Training 2 (Water), Monthly monitoring begins	Tech Advisor	\$120	Execution
Month 4	Capacity Building	Training 3 (Crops), Seed distribution, Learning exchange	Coordinator	\$140	Execution
Month 5	Implementation	Demo plots preparation, Monthly monitoring, Peer groups	All	\$150	Execution
Month 6	Implementation	Farm demonstrations ongoing, Agroforestry, School engagement	All	\$150	Execution
Month 7	Implementation	Continued field support, Monthly monitoring	Coordinator	\$120	Execution
Month 8	Monitoring	Mid-term evaluation, Impact assessment	Tech Advisor	\$100	Execution
Month 9	Documentation	Sustainability planning, Farmer handover	Project Lead	\$80	Execution

Month	Phase	Key Activities	Lead Person	Budget Allocation	Status
Month 10	Documentation	Final data collection, Case study documentation	Coordinator	\$80	Execution
Month 11	Close-out	Report finalization, Celebration event	Project Lead	\$100	Execution
Month 12	Close-out	Final report submission, Archive documents	All	\$80	Completion

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs) & TARGETS

Output Indicators

- Number of farmers trained: 15-20 ✓
- Number of training workshops conducted: 3-4 ✓
- Acres of farmland under improved practices: 20-25 acres ✓
- Farmers adopting soil conservation: 80%+ ✓
- Farmers adopting water management: 75%+ ✓
- Seedlings distributed: 500+ tree seedlings ✓

Outcome Indicators

- Average soil organic matter increase: +15-20% ✓
- Crop yield improvement: +20-30% ✓
- Water use efficiency improvement: +25% ✓
- Farmer income increase: +15% (where applicable) ✓
- Community awareness on sustainable farming: 90%+ ✓

Impact Indicators

- Direct beneficiaries: 15-20 farmers ✓
- Indirect beneficiaries: 200-300 people ✓
- Farmers maintaining practices 6 months post-project: 80%+ ✓
- Community environmental improvement: Observable ✓

RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation Strategy
Poor farmer participation	Medium	High	Early community engagement, incentives, local leadership support
Erratic rainfall/drought	Medium	Medium	Focus on water conservation techniques, drought-resistant crops
Inadequate seed supply	Low	Medium	Partner with IITA/agricultural suppliers, early ordering
High transport costs	Medium	Low	Local sourcing, volunteer support, budget flexibility
Community conflicts over land	Low	Medium	Traditional leadership involvement, clear communication
Staff turnover	Low	Medium	Good working conditions, clear contracts, knowledge documentation
Weather delays on activities	Medium	Low	Flexible scheduling, contingency activities indoors

COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **Monthly farmer meetings:** Team updates, feedback, knowledge sharing
- **Quarterly stakeholder reviews:** Government, NGO partners, community leaders
- **Regular WhatsApp/text updates:** Simple messages on farming tips, event reminders
- **Monthly field visits:** Direct contact with farmers, real-time support
- **Community celebration:** Final project event with media coverage (local radio, newspapers)
- **Photo/video documentation:** Evidence collection for reports and learning

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

1. **Farmer Group Institutionalization:** Formalize farmer cooperative registered with government
2. **Leadership Development:** Train farmer champions to lead peer education
3. **Linkage to Markets:** Connect farmers to agricultural buyers for income sustainability

4. **Resource Continuity:** Establish community seed bank, tree nursery for ongoing support
 5. **Knowledge Documentation:** Create local language guides for best practices
 6. **Institutional Support:** Engage Plateau State Ministry of Agriculture for ongoing extension support
 7. **Youth Involvement:** Ensure young farmers take leadership roles for long-term commitment
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BUDGET ALLOCATION BY PHASE

Phase	Duration	Budget	% of Total
Phase 1: Setup & Community Engagement	Month 1-2	\$150	15%
Phase 2: Capacity Building & Training	Month 2-5	\$350	35%
Phase 3: Implementation & Field Support	Month 5-10	\$340	34%
Phase 4: Documentation & Close-out	Month 8-12	\$160	16%
TOTAL	12 months	\$1,000	100%

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

1. **Trained Farmer Group:** 15-20 farmers with documented training attendance
 2. **Demonstration Plots:** 3-5 visible, successful demonstration sites
 3. **Community Nursery:** Operational nursery managed by farmers
 4. **Baseline & Endline Data:** Before/after measurements on soil, yield, water
 5. **Training Materials:** Printed guides and visual aids in local language
 6. **Monitoring Records:** Monthly visit reports with photo evidence
 7. **Case Studies:** 3-5 farmer success stories documented
 8. **Final Report:** Comprehensive project evaluation for UN DECADE
 9. **Farmer Operations Manual:** Sustainability guide for continued practice
 10. **Media Coverage:** Local newspaper, radio feature on project outcomes
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SUCCESS CRITERIA

The project will be considered successful if:

- ✓ At least 80% of target farmers participate in all training workshops
 - ✓ 75%+ of trained farmers adopt at least 2 sustainable practices
 - ✓ Documented soil health improvement in demonstration plots
 - ✓ Visible increase in crop yields on farmer fields
 - ✓ Community enthusiasm for continued learning and adoption
 - ✓ Farmer group established and operational beyond project period
 - ✓ Positive feedback from Plateau State government and community
 - ✓ Efficient use of USD 1,000 budget with transparent reporting
 - ✓ Lessons learned captured for scaling to other communities
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MONITORING & EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

When	What	Who	How	Output
Monthly	Farm progress	Coordinator	Field visits, farmer interviews	Monitoring reports
Quarterly	Stakeholder updates	Project Lead	Review meetings	Progress summaries
Mid-term (Month 8)	Impact assessment	Tech Advisor	Survey, FGDs	Mid-term evaluation
End of project (Month 12)	Final impact	All team	Baseline-endline comparison	Final report
6 months post-project	Sustainability check	Coordinator	Follow-up visits	Sustainability report

PROJECT GOVERNANCE

Project Steering Committee:

- Project Lead (Overall responsibility)

- Community Liaison (Community representation)
- Financial Officer (Budget management)
- Technical Advisor (Agricultural expertise)
- Farmer Representative (Beneficiary voice)

Meeting Frequency: Monthly (all team), Quarterly (with community stakeholders)

Decision-making: Consensus-based with community input prioritized

CONTACT & ACCOUNTABILITY

Project Information:

- Project Lead: Andrew Seyilnen Michael | seyithankgod@gmail.com | +234 7066021011
- Financial Officer: Dr. Henry Katniyon David | henrykatniyon@gmail.com | +234 8161734303
- Organization: Gwomshar Community Initiative / Enriched Our Farmland
- UN DECADE Contact: [Contact details if available]

Accountability:

- Monthly financial reports to UN DECADE TASK FORCE
 - Quarterly progress updates with documentation
 - Annual final comprehensive report
 - Open to third-party monitoring and evaluation
 - Community feedback mechanisms for continuous improvement
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NOTES & IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- All activities will be conducted in collaboration with local communities—top-down imposition avoided
- Sustainability is prioritized over dependency on external funding
- Women and youth participation actively encouraged in all phases
- Environmental protection and climate adaptation integrated throughout
- Cultural sensitivity and respect for local knowledge maintained
- Regular documentation for evidence of impact and learning

- Transparency in all financial transactions with receipts maintained