



HACKATHON 2023

DECEMBER 14/15

KENEMA REGION

- Alusine A. Sankoh
- Yayah P. Sesay
- Harding Kamara
- Sheku Turay
- Alice Bangura
- Yatta Mansaray

TEAM COACHES
Alhaji Josie Sam
Dorimael K. Odico

KAMARAYOKIE
INNOVATION
CENTER

FarmConnect

FarmConnect - Empowering Farmers through Digital Market Access

Project Objective:

FarmConnect is a technology-driven initiative designed to enhance the well-being of small-scale farmers in Sierra Leone. The primary goal of this project is to empower farmers by providing real-time market price information and establishing a digital marketplace connecting them directly with buyers. The project aims to boost transparency, reduce intermediary costs, and enable farmers to make informed decisions about their agricultural produce.

Challenges Addressed:

Small-scale farmers in Sierra Leone encounter multiple challenges, including limited access to market data and dependency on intermediaries. FarmConnect seeks to address these challenges by unifying two essential components in one digital platform.

Project Components:

Market Price Information System:

FarmConnect's Market Price Information System will deliver real-time market prices for various agricultural commodities. This valuable data will be accessible to farmers via an intuitive mobile application or web platform. The core objective of this component is to arm farmers with actionable information, enabling them to make well-informed decisions regarding when, where, and at what price to sell their crops.

Electronic Marketplace:

The second facet of FarmConnect will introduce an electronic marketplace where farmers can directly list their produce for sale, connecting them seamlessly with potential buyers. This digital platform will facilitate secure communication and negotiation between farmers and buyers, streamlining direct transactions. By eliminating intermediaries and reducing the time it takes to bring produce to market, this component strives to elevate farmers' income and profitability.

Methodology

To realize these project components, FarmConnect will:

1. Develop a user-friendly mobile application or web platform.
2. Integrate a robust database for the storage and real-time update of market prices.
3. Implement secure messaging and chat functionalities to facilitate direct communication between farmers and buyers.
4. Conduct field testing and actively gather feedback from local farmers to ensure user-friendly and functional design.
5. Collaborate with local agricultural experts to tailor the system to meet the specific needs of Sierra Leonean farmers.

Expected Outcomes:

- Enhanced income opportunities for small-scale farmers through direct sales at competitive prices.
- Improved transparency in the agricultural market and reduced reliance on intermediaries.
- Enhanced access to real-time market information, leading to better decision-making among farmers.
- Empowerment of farmers through the integration of technology in agriculture.
- A more efficient and transparent agricultural supply chain that benefits all stakeholders.

Sustainability

Following the project's launch, FarmConnect is committed to:

- Continuously collecting real-time market data and actively responding to user feedback to enhance the platform.
- Exploring strategic partnerships with local agricultural organizations to expand its reach and offer additional features.

Conclusion:

FarmConnect represents an innovative solution dedicated to the empowerment of small-scale farmers in Sierra Leone. By combining a Market Price Information System with an Electronic Marketplace, this project effectively addresses the key challenges faced by the agricultural sector. Its implementation promises to foster transparency, diminish the role of intermediaries, and ultimately enhance the livelihoods of those engaged in farming. AgriPricConnect is poised to make a substantial and lasting impact on Sierra Leone's agricultural landscape, ensuring sustainable benefits for the farming community.