

# ROLE OF YOUTH AND WOMEN IN PROMOTING REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

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December 14th 2022

***ROLE OF REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE IN BUILDING SUSTAINABLE FARMING AND FOOD  
SYSTEMS IN EAST AFRICA***

# POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS AND ECONOMY

- Women account for more than 50 percent of Africa's combined population, but in 2018 generated only 33 percent of the continent's collective GDP.
- In Africa, youth absolute count, nearing **200 million**, makes them the largest generation the region has ever had to raise. It is estimated that more than half (**51.6%**) are youth (15 to 34 years).
- In Africa, the youth constitutes about **37 percent** of the total labour force but make up about **60 percent** of total unemployment.”



**Kilimo  
Trust  
Region**

# SUGECO VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT, ELEVEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE



Youth and Women training for mindset transformation to value agriculture and agribusiness



Demonstration and application of entrepreneurship and business management approaches in creating and expanding business

Training emerging managers of start-ups

Applying technical and business skills for employees of emerging youth and women owned companies

# SUGECO Agrifood Entrepreneurship Initiative

Purpose: To foster entrepreneurial and business growth among young agrifood entrepreneurs in Tanzania

- Conducted as an RCT with 250 agrifood participants in 2022.
- In collaboration with Business School colleagues at the University of Maryland and Bocconi University.
- Analysis for research is on-going.

*Program is funded by the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Consortium for Innovation to Reduce Post Harvest Loss and Food Waste at Iowa State University.*



# ACTION APPROACH, HANDS-ON TRAINING IN SPECIFIC SUPPLY CHAINS



Training farmers for adoption of biofortified crops: 24,000

Training youth on technologies and business startups: 10,000



Training on horticultural, poultry, root and tubers, sunflower production and marketing business: 60,000+

Incubation and demonstration of use of various technologies



# Sugeco Internships and Incubation

## **Internships:**

Local

International (Israel and USA)



## **Incubation and accelerator:**

Wall to wall incubator

Virtual incubation

Demonstration and action research



## **Partnerships and development:**

International

Commercial banks

Government of Tanzania

Non governmental organization

# MAIN OBSERVATIONS

## My messages

To foster sustainable agroecological sector:

1. Supply chain development and value chain management has been, and still is, a missing link
2. Inclusion of women and youth, as managers, is critical must be approached hands-on application with realities on the ground
3. Targeted entrepreneurship training is needed for sustainable development

## TAKE AWAY MESSAGE

Strategic Investment in Youth and Women is necessary:

- ✓ Training on:
  - Mindset for Agriculture and Agribusiness
  - Business Planning and Management
  - Entrepreneurship
- ✓ Internship,
- ✓ Incubation,
- ✓ Mentorship and Coaching

# TAKE AWAY MESSAGES

Creating facilitating business environment for startups must also be strategic.

Few Examples:

1. Youth and women business in production of inputs for regenerative Agriculture must be supported for acceleration and research trials
2. Youth and women business in processing organic products
3. Youth and women developing demos for profitable regenerative agricultural production
4. Youth and women in rare business ideas e.g. BSF farming, highly integrated farming and value addition etc

# THANK YOU ALL

