

Green Sahara is working to bring a broad range of agricultural enhancement solutions to sustain the world

AGRICULTURE is the bedrock upon which civilizations are built. Human Society must produce food upon which to be sustained or acquire it from those who produce it. Development has been largely hinged on a people's productive agro-industrial prowess.

The greatest challenge is sustainably raising agricultural yields to feed the world's ever-increasing population. This holistically requires the support of responsible climate-sensitive approaches that promote agricultural innovation and the facilitation of responsible agricultural investments. Greater commitment to sound and efficient management practices, greater participatory production, improved training, extension and advocacy.

Also, the barriers to agricultural production have to be brought into perspective and actively worked against.

"Food and agriculture are at the center of many important issues facing us and the world we share today. Climate change, preserving natural resources and growing enough food to cater for our world are not only critical for today, but for the future. As a company focused on agriculture, I am proud we are engaging in these larger endeavours on food, farming and the future."

*DIKWA, Mohammed Suleiman
Chairman/Chief Executive Office*

Our Story

Green Sahara was incorporated in 2009 with a renewed perspective as an agribusiness organization considering the gravity of challenges and complexities in global agriculture and new market realities.

The agribusiness organization has been helping to define the challenges facing agriculture in the twenty-first century especially for the developing world by promoting self-sustaining processes of growth and bringing about socio-economic inclusion and empowerment while fueling technical and technological advances and efficiencies in agro-industrial production and trade.

Green Sahara has been mobilizing stakeholders and resources within the agro-industrial ecosystem and gaining commitments and recommitments to the aspirations for sustainable agriculture.

Driven on realizing social impact, Green Sahara has helped focus the strategic decisions and workings of Nigerian agribusiness in bearing considerations for uncertainties and opportunities, strategies and positioning, differentiation and synergies, as well as costs and resource maneuvers.

With the Green Sahara Revolution gaining momentum since 2015, the organization fostered productivity growth, strengthened markets and improved ecosystem linkages between agricultural and nonagricultural sectors while promoting trade and economic cooperation at regional and international levels.

The Operation Spicy Green (OSG), Green Grain Gains (GGG) and Integrated Value Chain Development Projects for various commodities have realized distinctive successes. These projects have helped the organization acquire assets and resourcing to consolidate on value chains for herbs and spices, cereals and grains, fruits and vegetables and especially sustainable foods including hibiscus, chili, sesame, sorghum, ginger, rice, and beans.

We have helped to advance agriculture beyond its essential role of providing food, clothing, fuel and shelter to the vital and high-impact influence it has on social wellbeing and environment.

Over the period from 2017 to 2022, Green Sahara attained some 300% growth in revenue while establishing regional centers in all six geopolitical zones in Nigeria. The organization established storage capacity of over 90,000 metric tons and 80,000 metric tons of cleaning and priming of agricultural commodities per annum.

Green Sahara established nationwide clusters and sub-clusters within an inclusive and integrated framework towards enhancing the productivity of the entire sub-Saharan food and economic corridor. The organization made it to the Business Day One of the 100 Fastest Growing Businesses in Nigeria in 2020.

The organization has focused on agricultural development in an economy-wide context while promoting the commercialization of smallholder agriculture, improving capital retention, generating foreign exchange, and boosting agro-industrial productivity. The efforts of the organization have brought improvements in market conditions and productivity enhancements that have stimulated socio-economic growth in various communities across Nigeria.

As Green Sahara continues to spur productivity growth towards attaining a sustainable, dynamic, competitive and profitable agro-industrial landscape, it has been confronted by internal conflicts and also been a target of external operational and market forces. The organization has maintained a strong resolve to succeed.

Green Sahara reaffirms and upholds its commitment to building sustainable integrated systems with multiplier effects on socio-economic growth. The transformative agenda of the organization features astounding projects including the establishment of a tissue culture laboratory with drive for select priority crops especially herbs and spices, diversifying value chain portfolio and expanding exports, inclusion drive on enterprise, economic and social spheres.

The organization's approach has been pragmatic and inclusive especially considering the need for wide participation and to harmonize and align strategies and resources in fulfilling a vision of a competitive, economically viable and sustainable agricultural sector capable of contributing in an equitable manner to improving living standards for all.

Green Sahara is intensifying efforts at promoting market growth while particularly building on the indigenous market to the extent possible so as to help generate greater levels of employment.

Green Sahara will firm up on promoting investor confidence through bolstering the reputation of its brand, supporting the development and implementation of policies, strategies and legal instruments to enhance the performance of agricultural markets, supporting human capital development and the adoption of higher industry standards.

On its renewed ESG framework, Green Sahara is helping drive attainment of balanced growth through concerted action with development priorities built on different patterns of investments.

The organization is developing capacities for the future and better poised to advance investments that will better put the forces of globalization, market liberalization, and technological growth to greater advantage for all stakeholders.

Our Purpose

- **The Organization**

Green Sahara is a full-scale agribusiness organization specializing in the development, facilitation and management of solutions within the span of the agro-industrial value system.

It is inclined to the proactive development of agricultural resources through a vibrant, dynamic and innovative work order keen on providing sustainable value to all stakeholders.

Through a multidimensional and entrepreneurial logic, Green Sahara leverages on world-class development and technical resources to optimize performance.

- **Mission**

To sustainably provide innovative and practical agro-industrial based solutions from the bottom of the pyramid - being the largest but poorest socio-economic group.

- **Vision**

GREEN SAHARA envisions its continuing leadership as an agribusiness organization creating a world-serving and sustainable Agricultural heritage from Africa

- **Core Values**

Green Sahara has been driven on the values of:

Innovation	Catalyzing development
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Sustainability	Fostering continuity
Empowerment	Enhancing capacity
Inclusiveness	Bonding community

- **Corporate Culture and Philosophy**

Green Sahara operates within a culture driven on creativity, collaboration and dynamism; performance at Green Sahara is distinguished for flexibility, zeal, quality and performance.

- **Strategic Objectives**

Green Sahara has adopted a pragmatic approach focusing on understanding the obstacles that inhibit the realization of agro-industrial developmental goals while enhancing the capabilities and other essentials that will allow the achievement of measurable and sustainable results.

The Organization is proactively working towards achieving amongst other objectives the following:

- I. Sustainably boosting agro-industrial productivity in Sub-Saharan Africa;
- II. Enhancing agricultural value chains;
- III. Synergizing resources for enhanced agro-industrial productivity;
- IV. Promoting standards and practices for the agricultural industry;
- V. Ensuring food availability and sufficiency in the world.

Our People and Organization

Green Sahara adopts a unique organization that is both flexibly and functionally a superb blend of a project-working and a matrix organization managed centrally.

Value is extracted from global processes and a resource pool from which critical performance areas drive creativity, innovation, works and impact.

Functional departments and personnel are integrated and aligned with various activities across operational bases and geographical territories while information, resources and works are coordinated in strategic flows

- Board and Management

Green Sahara is overseen by first-rated industry professionals well-grounded in the application of best corporate management principles; they bring to bear over four decades of experience in industry spanning public, civil society and private sectors.

Green Sahara works with a diverse pool of professionals and technical specialists coordinated within a network of more than 3,000 representatives at various tiers of engagement.

The organization engages the best talents on its Management and within its technical positions building up a culturally-diverse and vibrant workforce operating with sound management principles and technical proficiencies.

SULEIMAN DIKWA (FCIT, CAN, AMNI)

Mr. Suleiman is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Green Sahara. He is a highly accomplished global business development executive with proven excellence in enterprise leadership, in increasing systems efficiency and in driving organizational and sectoral growth; possesses a certificate in sustainable Business Strategy from Harvard Business School (2021), a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Liverpool (2015), chartered Accountant and Fellow of Chartered Taxation Institute, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Accountancy from National College of Accountancy, and a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy from the University of Maiduguri (1999);

A principal affiliate of the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance in Nigeria and Living Labs Nigeria, Prime Partner of Reforest-Action developing and conserving forests and natural ecosystems in world, National Coordinator of Agric Bureau, National Chairman of the Aggregators Association of Nigeria

PORTFOLIO

- **THE GREEN SAHARA REVOLUTION**

The Green Sahara Revolution is a social impact initiative of Green Sahara dedicated to actively empowering people and society through resource optimization and productivity enhancement strategies and solutions.

It is driven by an inner motivation to create innovative solutions to immediate social, economic and environmental problems while maintaining a balance between moral imperatives and the generation of revenue.

The Green Sahara Revolution is taking the lead to establish a fundamental rethinking of operational systems that can optimize resources, reduce wastages, empower as many people as possible and thereby be actively sustainable.

- **CORE VALUES**

- ✓ Revolve
- ✓ Renew
- ✓ Rejoice

- **STRATEGIC GOALS**

The strategic goals of the Green Sahara Revolution primarily include the following:

1. Develop innovative solutions which can actively reduce the environmental impact of modern life;
2. Promote and enhance the sustainable use of resources with emphasis on land, water, food, energy, and biodiversity;
3. Develop participative and all-inclusive enterprise models that provide local and community services, people empowerment and capacity development.
4. Boost primary production across major industries;
5. Address infrastructural deficits and the provision of social amenities and services.

The Green Sahara Revolution through its Great Green Fields Projects is helping to develop the entrepreneurial and organizational competencies of farmers, households, enterprise organizations and communities towards the realization of sustainable development outcomes.

Projects within the purview of the Green Sahara Revolution were organized into a framework tagged the “Great Green Fields”

These projects were initiated based on the reckoning that the majority of producers needed to work together in order to present a united front in achieving more efficient production models and economies of scale.

The Great Green Fields Projects of Green Sahara Revolution are to stimulate and help producers to engage opportunities and build efficiencies to operate, conserve, and appropriately manage natural and agricultural resources with the supporting infrastructure to increase the productivity of lands; gaining leverage of economies of scale and obtaining better market value as well as social impact.

The Great Green Fields are specifically to help achieve the following:

- The creation of agricultural business models/operating mechanisms with high-performance capabilities to attract the required investments and resources for optimal benefits;
- The development of economies of scale, through the organizational efficiency of producers and value chain stakeholders;
- The efficient and effective use of natural and agricultural resources.

It is expected that these elements, as a whole, contribute in a systematic way to all-round sustainable development.

The Great Green Fields identifies four different performance levels:

- Subsistence (pre-operative);
- Management (objective-oriented or operative);
- Strategic;
- Responsible performance.

In the implementation of the projects, producers are mobilized and resources are aggregated to enhance entrepreneurial and organizational capacities as well as pool technical and managerial support.

Then promoters and suppliers coordinate a developmental process that involves training, planning, organizing, and teamwork activities. This process begins with an initial diagnosis, performed by the promoters, and results in action plans, made by the users, usually producers which must include quantifiable objectives and specific tasks, with their corresponding deadlines and allotted roles and responsibilities.

Green Sahara consolidates its functions in the critical value chains for herbs and spices, nuts, fruits and vegetables, cereals and legumes, roots and tubers, oil, fiber and latex crops as streamlined into various projects:

GREEN SAHARA REVOLUTION

GREAT GREEN FIELDS PROJECTS

SPICY GREEN

(Spices and herbs)

GREEN GRAIN GAINS

(Cereals and Legumes)

GREEN ROOTS RESCUE

(Roots and Tubers)

OPERATIONAL FIELD

GREEN TREE THRIFT

(Oil, Latex, Fiber and Economic trees)

AGRO-GREEN VALUE CHAINS

(Development of agricultural value chains)

The Great Green Fields is geared towards the commercial cultivation of economically viable agricultural produce by producers across all tiers through an inclusive approach while especially filling the gender gap, meeting the needs of women and empowering all people.

In order to spark sustainable development of the agricultural sector, the Green Sahara Revolution is helping farmers assume responsibility for their own development by adopting new principles, values, attitudes and behaviors that lead to a liberation of social energy, with synergistic results

Operation Spicy Green:

focuses on the cultivation of economically viable, highly marketable and profitable spices and herbs

Green Grain Gains:

Facilitates the productivity boost in the value chain of various cereals and grains through enhancing efficiencies in sustainable production, processing and market expansion

Green Tree Thrift:

Adopts and espouses an economic approach to the planting of trees to optimize the performance of various sectors while driven on stimulating conscientious community participation; fostering the propagation of trees and promotion of agroforestry with a focus on enhancing local livelihoods and the conservation of biodiversity.

The Green Tree Thrift is based on a holistic approach with multi-dimensional strategies and solutions employed towards the provision of goods and services in a balanced way.

Green Roots Rescue:

Focuses on the sector productivity for local roots and tubers while delivering strategic interventions to scale up productivity and impact on all fronts, socio-cultural, economic and environmental

Agri-Green Value Chains:

Adopting the ideals of green agricultural practices across various commodity chain chains while building in traceability programming and helping to fix or modify value chains towards realizing sustainably enhanced productivity and global impact.

SUSTAINABILITY

Green Sahara is building on its position on sustainability by embracing Environmental, Social, and Good Governance principles as this is believed to be crucial to its long-term success.

We have swiftly committed to conducting our operations in a way that promotes environmental protection, social responsibility, and good governance practices while promoting sustainable farming practices, reducing greenhouse gas

emissions, conserving natural resources, promoting social welfare, and implementing transparent governance structures.

ESG

Green Sahara is prioritizing green supply chains throughout the entirety of its agricultural works.

With keen transformations to limited resource use while promoting adoption of sustainable and biodegradable materials, use of renewable energy sources, and suiting in recycling to its flows.

We are building on precision to optimize fertilizer and water use within local contexts while implementing agroforestry practices to reduce erosion, improve soil health and provide alternative income streams.

INCLUSION

Organizational deficiencies on the part of agricultural producers, industry actors and stakeholders are largely responsible for the low productivity of African Agriculture.

Meanwhile, Agriculture is not a homogeneous sector. Stakeholders operate in a complex, multi-faceted environment and therefore, sustainable development of the sector requires the development of entrepreneurial and organizational competencies. These inadequacies in entrepreneurial and organizational capacities affect the ability to take risks and expand production.

Green Sahara is partnering with local communities to develop sustainable agriculture practices and empower local people. We are helping to establish social and economic linkages with a view to boosting productivity and enhancing broad sustainable development.

Green Sahara aggregates resources through production/economic formations and working partners while acting as an anchor to coordinate the effective flow of the resources such as to minimize risks and optimize performance and accruals for all stakeholders.

The System is established to help provide structural support and build capacities of local communities at a scale – not just in technologies and practices, but more importantly to imbibe the culture of sustainability

IMPACT

In delivering critical impacts in core performance areas of resourcing, commercialization, standardization, and Sustainability, Green Sahara has driven on entrepreneurial leverages through integrative mechanisms to enhance numerous value and supply chains pooling the active participation of stakeholders, spreading risks to local productivity, streamlining responsibilities, optimizing resources and ensuring equitable distribution of rewards.

Green Sahara has made remarkable impact in the following areas:

- Orchestrating the largest hub of nurseries of economic trees while raising some 25 million trees within purview in Nigeria
- Securing and providing access to farming lands estimated at more than 300,000 hectares within 10 years
- Pooled in private sector investments and resourcing into sub-Saharan agriculture to the tune of \$2 million dollars within a decade
- Operated and enhanced some 10 different value and supply chains in Nigeria with Green Sahara dealerships streaming cumulative value estimated at more than \$20 million dollars within a decade
- Trained more than 5,000 producers on good and sustainable agricultural practices
- Raised rural household income of over 2,000 households by 50% from baseline in 10 years
- Created employment and sustained over 2,000 jobs across its operational areas within 10 years
- Increased availability of food supplies with flows of over 150,000 metric tons of various food commodities
- Realizing import substitution estimated at over a \$10 million dollars over the last 10 years
- Created new market access and consolidated local food commodities market streaming over \$2 million dollars annually

AFFILIATIONS

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