



CNFA

Highlights from 2023

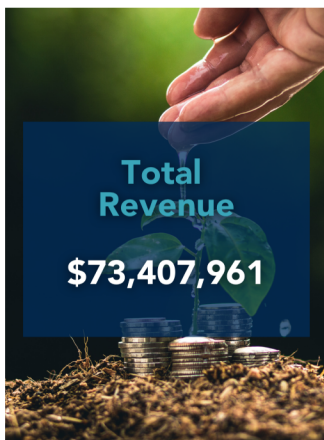


In 2023, CNFA's global projects made important strides toward building a prosperous world without hunger. Working to implement nine programs in more than 15 countries across Sub-Saharan Africa, the Sahel, Eastern Europe, and the Caucasus, CNFA's programs collaborated with farmers, private sector entities, and individual entrepreneurs to help promote a vision of agricultural development that includes equitable and sustainable growth and leads to expanded economic opportunity for agricultural sector stakeholders around the world.

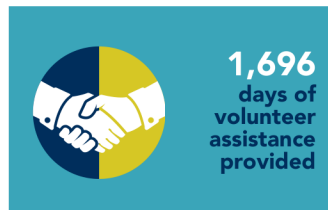


The impacts of CNFA's programs in 2023 were significant. To strengthen food security and climate resilience, CNFA worked to facilitate access to crucial agricultural inputs and equipment, and helped to facilitate knowledge sharing and the introduction of management best practices to ensure that farmers were equipped with the tools and skills they needed to support healthy, nutritious lifestyles for themselves and their communities.

FINANCIALS



IMPACT



YEAR IN REVIEW

To help build an inclusive, sustainable vision of agricultural development, CNFA programs collaborated with business owners, entrepreneurs, and industry stakeholders to facilitate new business linkages that empower women, youth, and rural communities by strengthening the export and growth potential of a range of agricultural value chains.

In Georgia, the USAID Resilient Communities Program bolstered economic growth along the Administrative Boundary Line by boosting the tourism sector. Notably, it supported events like the Svaneti International Film Festival and the Summer Set Festival in Chuberi and Gudauri, respectively, drawing visitors from within Georgia as well as international visitors from across the globe. These initiatives helped local businesses thrive, leading to increased incomes and resilience while showcasing the region's rich cultural heritage.

Simultaneously, the USAID Agriculture Program facilitated Georgian producers' access to international markets through trade fairs such as the International Food and Drink Expo in London, the 2023 Summer Fancy Food Show in New York City, the International Wine Expo in Daejeon, South Korea, and the U.S. Private Label Trade Show in Chicago, resulting in \$148 million in sales to date.

In Rwanda, the Feed the Future Rwanda Hinga Wunguke Activity formed partnerships with OCP Africa and other key market actors to establish Farm Service Centers—one-stop shops retailing a complete range of inputs, services, information, finance, technology, and market connections—and implement soil testing and fertilizer improvement programs, reaching 180,000 farmers across seven districts.

In Zimbabwe, the Amalima Loko activity promoted inclusion, food security, and resilience through locally led activities that engaged 40,000 community members across 618 villages in Matabeleland North. In collaboration with the activity, villages implemented watershed protection, restoration, and resource management activities informed by watershed planning and Community Visioning—an approach where residents define their community's needs and goals. Amalima Loko also collaborated with communities to develop the Kachechete weir dam and five communally owned irrigation schemes, and supported residents to engage in Village Saving and Loan groups, helping them access over \$1 million in lending.

In Azerbaijan, the USAID Private Sector Activity prioritized creating an inclusive environment for women in business through trainings and by launching the Women's National Business Agenda, which represents over 1,000 members of the country's private sector and



Hinga Wunguke's partnerships in Rwanda supported initiatives like the "OCP School Lab" campaign, which improved market access and employment opportunities for over 200,000 farmers, including 46,000 youth.



Amalima Loko's irrigation schemes are expected to benefit 258 farmers and the Kachechete weir dam will service six villages, benefitting 350 households and supplying water to over 2,500 livestock.

aims to recognize and mitigate challenges impeding women's entrepreneurship and employment while improving the broader economic landscape for women. These initiatives are crucial to increasing the access of women entrepreneurs and business owners to information, markets, digital and business development services, finance, networks, mentorship, and other resources that will enable them to overcome obstacles to starting and growing their firms and improving their livelihoods and incomes.

In the Sahel, the Feed the Future-funded USAID Yidgiri Activity strengthened local market systems and nutrition outcomes in Burkina Faso by supporting producers to sustainably grow affordable, nutritious foods such as cowpea, orange-fleshed sweet potatoes, poultry, and small ruminants. The Activity also facilitated access to essential equipment, inputs, and services for processors and micro, small, and medium enterprises and provided nutrition-sensitive trainings on food safety and hygiene, as well as on improved food manufacturing practices, sales, packaging, storage, and preservation, helping generate \$13 million in sales for cowpea, poultry, small ruminants, and other nutritious foods.

In Niger, the Feed the Future-funded USAID Yalwa activity organized a Technology and Innovation Market in June to scale innovative technologies and create business opportunities, particularly for youth and women entrepreneurs. The event featured 207 exhibitors and fostered 134 new business relationships that will contribute to increasing the availability and affordability of nutritious foods. USAID Yalwa also established a committee of nutritious food vendors from 133 villages in Maradi, Tillabéri, and Zinder to increase the local supply of safe and nutritious food and successfully increased the coverage of animal health services through private animal health networks by reinforcing the capacity of 235 animal health auxiliaries.

In Mali, the Feed the Future Mali Sugu Yiriwa activity strengthened market systems, improved household incomes, and enhanced nutritional statuses by providing access to market opportunities, finance, agricultural inputs, and equipment through initiatives like grain fairs, the distribution of cooking kits, and the provision of post-harvest equipment. It also helped strengthen food security for 68,000 individuals by supporting the development of income-generating activities for nearly 9,000 women and youth and distributing 392 tons of food packages to pregnant women and children under five.

The USDA Food for Progress West Africa PRO-Cashew Project continued to improve cashew productivity, competitiveness, and trade for thousands of farmers across Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria by improving their capacity and partnering with cashew processing companies to facilitate organic certifications for 2,620 farmers. In collaboration with governments, research institutes, cashew associations, nurseries, and other private sector partners, the Project

Through specialized trainings, the USAID Private Sector Activity supported over 700 women entrepreneurs in rural areas to improve their financial literacy and digital communication skills as well as their access to profitable markets.

In Burkina Faso, USAID Yidgiri's efforts enhanced the consumption of nutritious foods for women and children, as 74% of women targeted consumed a minimum of dietary diversity—a 15% increase from 2022.



To date, Sugu Yiriwa has helped raise over \$450,000 for producers, processing units, and traders.





also distributed over 850,000 improved seedlings and polyclonal seeds to farmers and nurseries to rehabilitate orchards, enhance cashew quality and quantity, and build resilience to pests and shifts in the local climate.

Finally, 2023 marked the conclusion of projects like the Georgia Hazelnut Improvement Project (G-HIP), the Feed the Future Nigeria Agribusiness Investment Activity, and the Farmer-to-Farmer Program in Southern Africa and Moldova. These projects made significant contributions to their respective sectors, such as assisting over 18,400 agricultural enterprises in Nigeria to access finance worth over \$244 million and supporting 447 volunteer assignments to strengthen diverse value chains including legumes, horticulture, and aquaculture in Madagascar, Malawi, Moldova, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. G-HIP successfully helped modernize the Georgian hazelnut sector, establishing new processing facilities, introducing traceability software, and assisting the Government of Georgia in responding to the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug infestation.

LOOKING FORWARD

In 2024, CNFA is eager to begin its impact with five new projects. Working closely with the Government of Armenia and the private sector, the five-year USAID Economic Foundations for a Resilient Armenia Activity aims to introduce sustainable and scalable solutions that strengthen economic resilience, promote enterprise competitiveness, and grow the country's tourism, agriculture, and high-tech sectors. Under the USAID-funded, five-year Enhancing Local Efforts for Vital, Transformative, and Evidence-Based Nutrition Activity (ELEVATE Nutrition), CNFA will collaborate with a consortium led by FHI 360 to advance implementation of high-quality nutrition programs and policies that improve the nutritional status of women and children, particularly in the first 1,000 days, taking a multisectoral approach that focuses on bridging the gap between global evidence and local implementation.

CNFA was also awarded the new five-year USAID-funded John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer Program, which will connect U.S. volunteer experts with farmer groups, agribusinesses, agricultural schools and colleges, finance providers, and other agriculture sector institutions in Madagascar, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. With local market actors, the Program will help improve the quality and quantity of production, develop enterprises, and facilitate strong market connections through at least 326 new assignments. In Zimbabwe, the five-year Feed the Future Zimbabwe Non-Timber Forest Products Global Development Alliance—built on a partnership between USAID, CNFA, and Zimbabwean social enterprise Organic Africa—will work across 23 districts to expand the market for Zimbabwean non-timber forest products including baobab, marula, rosella, and Ximenia, providing new and sustainable income generating opportunities for smallholder farmers. In the West Bank and Gaza, the four-year USAID Effective Manage of Irrigation Water Activity will work with farmers to adopt improved irrigation technologies and climate-smart agricultural practices to facilitate increased productivity and climate resilience.