

Hope Sakuma

Farm Report 2018

Farm Plan 2018-20

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Introduction

My foundation began working with 2 villages in 2017 developing Hope Sakuma, a climate-smart sustainable farm and we enter 2019 working with an amazing 23 villages in Sanda Magbolontor, one of the most deprived Chiefdoms in Sierra Leone, one of the least developed nations.

Inspired by Dr Richard Munrang and EBAFOSA we're harnessing the power of innovative volunteerism leveraging human and natural capital with diaspora skills to develop key value chains; empowering rural women to improve nutrition harvesting groundnut, vegetables and honey, food security with IVS rice and climate change adaption with cassava and cashew; diversifying livelihoods, protecting our rich bio-diversity and feeding children in our interim care and kinship fostering programmes.

As Hope Sakuma turns two, my foundation has taken the decision, with the support of Karene District MAF, to transition Hope Sakuma to a stand-alone NGO with ABC status enabling development as a producer marketing cooperative able to lever in private sector investment to achieve our mission, fully aligning our activities to the Government's bold new Strategic Masterplan for Agriculture and the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Supporting villages with skills training to register as independent FBOs my foundation will retain a stake in Hope Sakuma continuing back office support and building capacity locally in project management, fundraising and social media.

Mayila



Intensifying Rice Production to Improve Food Security

This 2018-21 project aims to improve food security for Sanda Magbolontor farmers by intensifying rice production. In 2018 6 villages benefited from a boli planted with 30 bushels, weeded and 150 bushels harvested by hand - feeding vulnerable children. 2018 also saw 15 villages begin development of inland valley swamps for Nerica rice, harvest-ready in just 3-4 months.

Farm Plan 2018

- Mar 18 Identify suitable boli (10 in total identified)
- May-Oct 18 Provide tractor repair, tools, seed, feeding
- Sep 18 Purchase parboilers to add value to rice
- Oct 18 Identify suitable IVS sites and teams (20 identified)
- Nov 18 Provide tools, seed, fertilizer, feeding
- Dec 18 Establish seed bank

Farm Plan 2019

- Jan-Apr 19 Develop IVS sites for Nerica rice production
- Jan-May 19 Bespoke Farmer Field School training with JICA, MAF
- Apr-May 19 Develop boli lands as funding allows
- Jul 19 Purchase thresher & polisher to improve productivity & quality
- Sep 19+ Develop additional IVS sites as seed bank/funding allows
- Nov 19 Seek private sector investment

Farm Plan 2020

- Jan 20+ Develop additional IVS sites
- Mar 20 Develop boli lands as funding allows
- Feb 20 Purchase oil press to process rice husk waste by-product
- Jul 20 Purchase flour mill to process rice into flour



1000+ acres of undeveloped boli and inland valley swamp available to intensify rice production, enough to feed Sanda Magbolontor, children in our interim care and kinship fostering programmes and supply nutritious Kontri rice to selected Freetown outlets



Guaranteeing women speaking rights, translating information into Temne and videoing decisions and discussions improves inclusivity and overcome low literacy rates

Gender Equality to Deliver Good Governance

Despite Low literacy and numeracy rates rural women are savvy marketers working on trust who also carry out the majority of work on the farm and in the home. By design, Hope Sakuma affiliated FBOs reflect this reality with a two thirds majority of women members with guaranteed roles at all levels and equal speaking time at meetings.

Farm Plan 2018

Feb 18 Select Executive Board

Mar-Dec 18 Hold regular meetings (8 documented)

Jan-Feb 18 Skills training equal voice

Oct-Nov 18 Skills training self-supervising groups

Dec 18 Elect group office holders equal representation

Farm Plan 2019

Jan-Feb 19 Hold registration drives & register FBOs (20 FBO's registered from 23 villages, maintain waiting list)

Apr 19 Skills training in videoing decisions

Jul 19 Develop model constitution with villages

Jul-Sep 19 Skills training in fair non-discriminatory decision and rule making

Aug 19 Transition to ABC status

Dec 18 Elect group office holders

Farm Plan 2020

Mar 20 Transition to Producer Marketing co-op

Mar-Jun 20 Financial inclusion training

Jul 20 Open bank accounts / app

Aug 20 Business skills training for women and youth

Nov 20 Share co-op proceeds according to agreed rules

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2 ZERO HUNGER



5 GENDER EQUALITY



13 CLIMATE ACTION



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES





Boosting Nutrition & Climate Change Adaptation

Our project to boost nutrition and climate adaptation seeded 6 groundnut farms in 2018 from our 2017 harvest. Diversifying into highly nutritious and drought-resistant cassava and cashew will provide staple replacements even in times of climate stress helping these communities become more resilient as they take practical steps to adapt to climate change.

Adding value locally by processing groundnut into peanut butter and cassava into gari will improve livelihoods. Villages actively want to diversify into vegetables.

Farm Plan 2018

Mar 18 Extend groundnut from 2 to 7 villages (60 bushels produced)

May-Sept 18 Create cassava farm on previously farmed land, interplant with millet, potato leaf for feeding and suppress weeds, removing the need for pesticides, maintaining soil health

Aug 18 Interplant 600 cashew saplings to ensure tending

Farm Plan 2019

Mar 19 Extend Groundnut farms to 12 villages

Jul 19 Install off-grid system to power cold storage, irrigation

Sep 19 Extend cassava farms to key cashew plantations in partnership with COOPI planting 10,000 cashew saplings

Farm Plan 2020/21

Jan 20 Build food-safe Processing and Packaging space

Feb 20 Purchase oil press to process cashew, groundnut

May 20 Extend cassava and cashew farm to 10 villages

Jul 20 Purchase flour mill to process cashew, cassava

The largest cassava farm in Sanda Magbolontor created in 6 months will seed cassava farms throughout the Chieftom building climate resilience. Lined with 600 cashew saplings donated by COOPI these two nutritious, drought-resistant crops help communities adapt to climate change



Artisan bee-keepers, trained to farm sustainably, weave and place their hives by hand in medicine trees of the Sand Magbolontor rainforest and harvest the hives by hand without harming bees.

Improving Forest Livelihoods, Protecting Bio-Diversity

This new project for 2019 builds on our nutrition and climate adaptation project to improve rainforest communities' livelihoods by developing market linkages for existing products such as honey and palm oil and diversifying activities. Sensitization work undertaken in 2018 with Sakuma villages and the Fola demonstrated a willingness to protect bio-diversity and diversify into low-impact, high-profit sheep and pigs, fruit and cashew trees, vegetables.

Farm Plan 2019

- Apr 19 Provide food-safe containers
- May 19 Appoint seed multiplication officer
- Jun 19 Transfer Nursery kit to Manays
- Jul 19 Train 4 women per village in nursery skills
- Jul 19 Develop 10 pepper and tomato farms
- Aug 19 Assist Fola & 2 villages to diversify into goats and pigs
- Sep 19 Bee development peer training for cashew villages
- Nov 19 Weave additional hives
- Dec 19 Map palm and medicine trees

Farm Plan 2020

- Jan 20 Hang hives at cashew locations
- Feb 20 Purchase oil press and nutcracker to assure quality
- Apr 20 Utilize waste bi products for nut oil and black soap
- Jul-Sep Develop 20 pepper and tomato farms

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