

SOUTHERN AFRICA



Farmer-to-Farmer: Southern Africa

With the goal of generating broad-based economic growth and food security, CNFA is implementing the U.S. Agency of International Development's (USAID) Southern Africa Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) program. This five-year program (2018-2023) in Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe and in the European country of Moldova will post experienced U.S. volunteers to farmer groups, agribusinesses and other agriculture sector institutions to promote sustainable improvements in food security and agricultural processing, production and marketing.

These volunteers are senior or mid-level experts and represent all ages and industries. They are farmers, bankers, professors, civil servants, and active and retired entrepreneurs. Generally three-week volunteer assignments focus on a range of topics, from training farmers' associations in improved production techniques and post-harvest handling, to teaching cooperatives better financial management and marketing.

CNFA volunteers are supported by our highly trained local staff with both technical skills and knowledge of the country partners. Assignments can focus on any segment of the value chain, from input supply and production, to marketing, transport and processing.

EXPECTED IMPACTS

\$1.4 million
Increase in net incomes

\$46.7 million
Increase in sales by hosts

80,741
*Beneficiaries reached
through training*

Program Objectives

The Farmer-to-Farmer program aims to:

- **Increase agricultural sector productivity and profitability:** CNFA will promote adoption of innovative agricultural techniques and technologies and support improved marketing and business skills.
- **Improve conservation and sustainable use of environmental and natural resources:** Foci will include integration of conservation agriculture and other practices to produce higher and more stable yields while reducing environmental degradation.
- **Expand agricultural sector access to financial services:** CNFA's efforts will strengthen financial management and business-planning skills of farmer organizations and agribusinesses.

CNFA will also support organizational development and building local markets and networks and partnerships with government and private-sector stakeholders. Such institutions include farmer cooperatives and associations, local NGOs, industry associations, and agricultural universities.

Program Approach

CNFA's approach builds on continuous learning from the F2F program since its 1984 inception, and decades of experience in F2F implementation. In each country, focal value chains are first analyzed to identify critical leverage points for wide improvements in incomes and food security.

Our efforts will:

Maximize development impact by implementing market-driven country projects that address constraints in value chains, based on comprehensive market analyses.

Harness technology by promoting the incorporation of appropriate, innovative, climate-smart technologies that support more productive and profitable operations.

Empower women and youth by identifying labor-saving strategies and addressing their constraints. CNFA will pay particular attention to women- and youth-led organizations, female producer groups, and women-led processors.

Improve nutritional outcomes by supporting nutrient-rich value chains, particularly legumes, dairy, livestock, and aquaculture, and promoting the sale of these commodities in local markets.

Strengthen resilience to climate risks by facilitating adoption of improved climate-smart technologies and natural resource management techniques that improve soil health/fertility and reduce runoff, erosion, and dependency on chemical inputs.

Our Volunteers

CNFA recruits highly trained, exceptionally qualified volunteers – farmers, extension agents and business experts with years of experience in their respective fields – who give their time and energy to provide expert-level technical assistance to farmers and entrepreneurs. These volunteers work with agribusinesses, extension agencies, cooperatives, and farmers to provide their expertise on topics including crop production, post-harvest handling and marketing of seeds, cooperative and association development, business plan development, and financial management, among others.

With their continued support, the Southern Africa F2F program looks forward to providing technical assistance to farmers and entrepreneurs in the region.

Value Chain	Country
Horticulture	Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Legumes	Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Aquaculture	Madagascar, Malawi, Zambia
Livestock	Madagascar, Zimbabwe (+dairy), Moldova (+dairy)
Rice	Madagascar
Organic agriculture	Moldova
Poultry and sub-sector services	Mozambique

For more information on impacts in one of our focus countries, or information on how to become a volunteer, please contact the F2F Director, Marjatta Eilitta at: meilitta@cnfa.org.