



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

DEVELOPING LOCAL EXTENSION CAPACITY

Improving agricultural extension and advisory services through *action, evidence* and *advocacy*



The Feed the Future Developing Local Extension Capacity (DLEC) project galvanizes diverse extension and advisory service (EAS) stakeholders to measurably improve agricultural extension programs, policies and services.

DLEC (2016-2021) is led by Digital Green in partnership with consortium members International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS).

DLEC accomplishes this objective through three interrelated sets of activities:



DIAGNOSTICS

Targeted diagnostics to identify opportunities and recommend areas for public, private and donor investment; eg. on involving youth and private sector in extension.



ENGAGEMENTS

Action research activities that build local capacity and generate evidence on how to improve EAS.



COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE (CoP)

Lasting national and global communities mobilized to advocate for scaling proven approaches.

WE AIM TO REACH 1 MILLION FARMING HOUSEHOLDS AND INFLUENCE 50 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS TO ADOPT RECOMMENDATIONS THAT IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE DELIVERY/EAS PROGRAM OPERATIONS.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Digital
Green

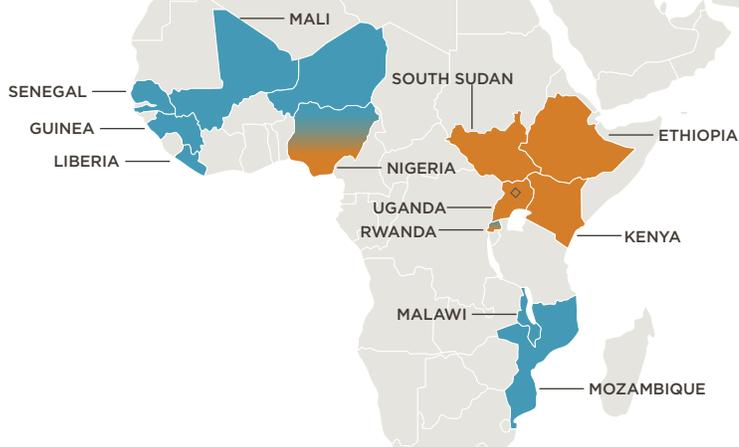


INTERNATIONAL
FOOD POLICY
RESEARCH
INSTITUTE



- ◆ **DIAGNOSTICS**
- ◆ **ENGAGEMENTS**
- ◇ **COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE**

GUATEMALA
HONDURAS



BANGLADESH
MYANMAR

Diagnostics

The profiled countries include Bangladesh, Guinea, Honduras, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Senegal.

The reports are available at <http://bit.ly/DLEConAgrilinks>

Communities of Practice (CoP)

In partnership with GFRAS and its regional and country fora, the DLEC CoP advocates for evidence-based EAS programs.

Join our global community of practice: <http://bit.ly/dleccop>

Contact

Dr. Kristin Davis, Project Co-Director & Alesha Miller, Project Co-Director

eascop@digitalgreen.org

Mr. John Peters, USAID Agreement Officer Representative (jopeters@usaid.gov)



Engagements

DLEC works with USAID Missions, public and private sector and civil society to implement locally-tailored, partnership-based solutions that address country-specific challenges and build the capacity of country stakeholders. Current and completed engagements include:

- In **Bangladesh**, a transport-to-market mobile solution, implemented by Digital Green, provided smallholder farmers access to markets. Over 5,000 farmers sold 18k+ metric tons of fresh fruit and vegetables generating USD 4 million in sales. Participating farmers received 14% higher prices for their produce and experienced 25% reduction in cost of transportation.
- In **Ethiopia**, results of an impact evaluation, led by IFPRI, showed up to 37% greater likelihood of smallholder farmers receiving advice/training via video and adopting improved technologies. Digital Green also partnered with Fintrac, FAO, Ethiopia's Agricultural Transformation Agency and CABI to test a holistic digital suite of tools to provide localized farmer-centric fall armyworm mitigation advice.
- In **Guinea**, DLEC is supporting key EAS stakeholders to set the foundation for a national EAS country forum to foster collaboration, learning and coordination.
- In **Honduras**, Care International, built the capacity of the national government agency overseeing extension provision on participatory and best-fit EAS models to reach Honduran smallholder farmers with quality public extension.
- In **Kenya**, Digital Green is partnering with the Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization and the Makueni County Government to develop customized digital content on fruit fly prevention for mango farmers.
- In **Nigeria**, video-enabled extension implemented by two dairy processors trained by Digital Green resulted in the processors (i) doubling the quantity of milk processed; and (ii) reducing the rejection rate for spoiled milk from 40% to 0%. Digital Green and the Kano Agricultural & Rural Development Agency tested a model for participatory curriculum development and dissemination on most impactful agronomic practices for the rice value chain resulting in 23-25% yield increase compared to control plots.
- In **Rwanda**, Digital Green, in partnership with One Acre Fund and Rwanda Agriculture Board, tested incentive schemes to improve performance of volunteer farmer promoters. Improved farmer promoter performance led to a 37% increase in adoption of good agricultural practices and an 8% increase in farmer knowledge. DLEC, with the Feed the Future Hinga Weze project, is testing digital extension approaches to support youth extension agents.
- In **South Sudan**, Digital Green partnered with the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and private sector seed companies to implement the community-video approach to build awareness on high quality seed among smallholder farmers.
- In **Uganda**, a field experiment led by IFPRI, found that providing information to both heads of household led to an increase in joint decision-making, increased knowledge retention and greater uptake of practices.