



Africa: The World's Next Breadbasket

CHALLENGE:

Africa is the world's hungriest continent.

Malnutrition affects almost 40% of children under 5 in Sub-Saharan Africa. Approximately 80% of Africa's farms are small plots run by rural farmers, and they are beset by challenges at every stage in the value chain. Nutrient-deficient soil, erratic water supplies, inadequate inputs, limited credit, and inaccessible or inefficient markets disconnect Africa's agricultural potential from its reality of chronic hunger.

AFRICARE'S SOLUTION:

Africa can feed itself.

Comprehensive Approach:

Africare supports farmers at every stage of production and selling through access to enhanced inputs such as fertilizers and modified seeds, training in best agricultural practices, development of farmers' associations, access to microcredit and links to competitive markets. By sustainably integrating communities into value-chains, Africare achieves enduring results.

Increased Yields:

Africare's System of Rice Intensification in Mali won InterAction's Best Practices Award for Natural Resource Management and Adaptation to Climate Change in 2011 and increased average rice yields from 4.86 to 9.1 metric tons per hectare. The methodology's environmental benefits also enable farmers to remain productive and self-reliant in the face of increased climate variability.

Increased Incomes:

In Mozambique, Africare trained agriculture promoters to teach productivity improving techniques, market-linkage strategies, and leadership and management skills. Africare also mobilized 92 farmers' associations to engage in contract farming arrangements with private sector agribusinesses. In sum, almost 90% of more than 19,000 beneficiary farmers reported an increased income.

Healthier Families:

As part of the same project in Mozambique, Africare trained 770 nutrition promoters who now conduct over 3,000 group discussions per month to pass information on general nutrition, malnutrition issues and infant feeding to tens of thousands of local mothers.



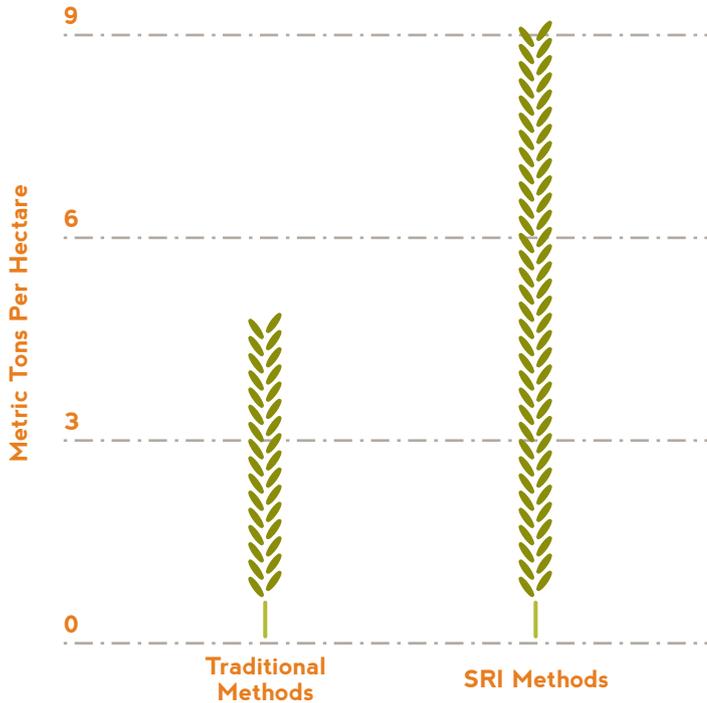
Photo: Alexandra Seegers

OUR CORE COMPETENCIES

-  Agriculture & Food Security
-  Health, HIV & AIDS
-  Water, Sanitation & Hygiene
-  Women's Empowerment
-  Resettlement



Improving lives, Building futures



In Mali, Africare’s System of Rice Intensification (SRI) resulted in an **87% increase** in average rice yields, from 4.86 to 9.1 metric tons per hectare.

“We were taught how to look after animals, grow crops using better farming methods, and now we still use what we learned and we can also teach others.”

-Tavhare Fernando Chingore
Africare Beneficiary, Mozambique
(Not pictured)

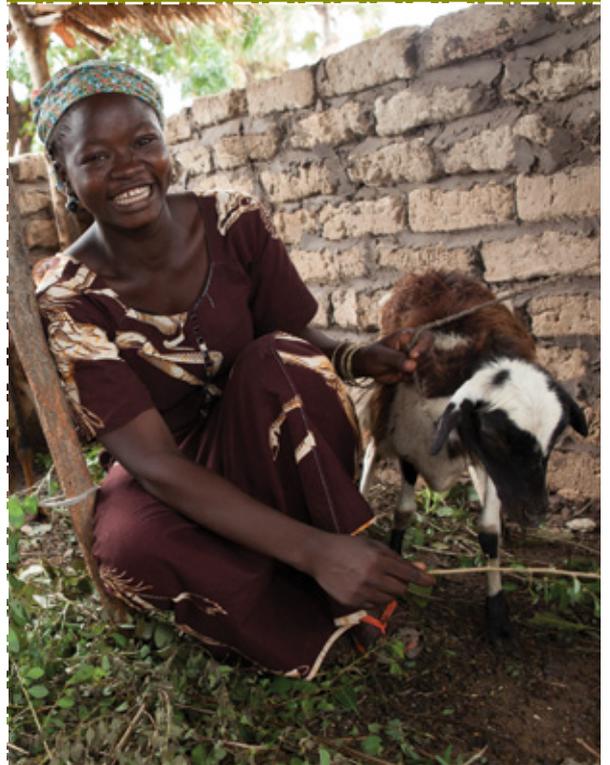


Photo: Jake Lyell

About Africare

Africare, the largest and most experienced international non-governmental organization (NGO) focused exclusively on Africa, is committed to improving lives and building futures. In more than 40 years of partnering with local communities, NGOs, governments and the private sector, Africare has invested over \$1 billion through thousands of projects in more than 35 African countries.

“No group has addressed Africa’s agricultural problems better than Africare.”

-George H. W. Bush
Former United States President

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