

One Acre Fund

One Acre Fund helps smallholder African farmers boost productivity by delivering a bundle of services directly to their doorsteps, including start-up financing, high-quality farming inputs, agricultural training, and market facilitation to help maximize profits. These tools help farmers increase their yield per acre, grow the value of farm profits and assets, and promote long-term resilience to weather and economic shocks.

Their annual demonstrated impact includes:

- Boosting incomes by an average of ~35%, translating to US\$124 in new profits, by helping farmers improve their farm productivity in ten countries across sub-Saharan Africa.
- Equipping farmers to achieve US\$434 million in new profits and assets through their full-service program and partnerships, marking well over US\$1 billion in cumulative farmer impact generated since their founding in 2006.
- Planting 350+ million cumulative cost-effective tree seedlings, with a trajectory to reach 1 billion trees by 2030.
- Since 2024, directly serving over 1 million farmers in Rwanda annually (and a further 1.6 million through partnerships – effectively 95% of the smallholder population). Across all countries of operation, One Acre Fund directly serves 2.1 million farmers, and reaches another 3.4 million through partnerships.

Donations above \$2 **tax-deductible**. See our global [tax-deductibility options here](#).

DONATE NOW

By Card or Paypal

OTHER WAYS TO DONATE

By Bank Transfer, Cheque, Crypto, etc.

Key Strengths: Scale, Durability

Multidimensional Poverty Index Indicators: Assets, Nutrition

Other Key Outcomes: Income increase

Recent Expense Budget: US\$241,847,000 (2024)

Year Founded: 2006

5.5M

farmers served in 2024

US\$434M

in new farmer profits and assets

US\$4.43

generated for every dollar donated

Other ways to donate

We recommend that gifts up to \$1,000 be made online by credit card. If you are giving more than \$1,000, please consider one of these alternatives.

CHEQUE

BANK TRANSFER

STOCKS OR SHARES

PAYROLL / WORKPLACE GIVING

BEQUESTS

The problem: subsistence-level farming with shockingly low yields

Agriculture is the dominant profession of farmers presently living on less than US\$1 a day. 80% of Africa's poor are rural farm families, currently relying on subsistence-style farming to meet their food and income needs. Many of these farmers work incredibly hard but achieve extremely low yields and face uncertainties due to severe fluctuations in the weather and markets. With the right resources, training and access to broader markets, One Acre Fund helps farmers participating in the core program increase their farm profits and assets by an average of US\$124. [\[1\]](#), [\[8\]](#)

In many of Africa's remote farming villages, basic technologies like seed and fertilizer are often unavailable. If they are available, farm families often cannot access the start-up capital necessary to purchase them. Smallholders also struggle to optimize their farming output without proper training on agricultural best practices. Finally, post-harvest challenges like inadequate storage, pest infestations, spoilage, and lack of access to formal markets can prevent farmers from translating yields into profits.

80% of the people living on less than \$1 a day in Africa today are subsistence farmers.





The solution: holistically addressing the barriers to smallholder productivity

Traditional agricultural assistance programs often provide support in just one area. For example, offering a small start-up loan or subsidizing fertilizer. But distributing high-quality farm inputs yields little benefit if farmers cannot afford them or do not know how to properly use them. To truly improve farmers' livelihoods, an organization must address each of the interlocking barriers farmers face, from pre-planting access issues to finding fairly priced markets for the produce they've worked hard to grow.

How One Acre Fund works

One Acre Fund's model is designed to address all of the barriers that prevent smallholder farmers from achieving long-term financial stability and prosperity. . At the start of each planting season, they deliver thousands of tons of high-quality farm inputs to within walking distance of every customer — and extend those inputs on credit at a quarter the size of the average microfinance loan. Throughout the season, One Acre Fund field staff deliver in-field training on best farming practices.

At harvest time, One Acre Fund provides farmers with the tools and knowledge to safely store their harvest and sell during the off-season for significant profit. For a growing number of farmers, they are offering the aggregation, certification, processing, transportation, and brokering services needed to connect them with formal markets, where their crops can fetch a much better price.

One Acre Fund's success lies in the holistic combination of access to training and high quality resources, long-term resilience-building support, and access to profitable markets, providing support across the entirety of the value chain.. On average, this model boosts clients' incomes on supported activities by 35-40% within a single growing season. Furthermore, when farmers improve their harvests, they produce more food for their families and communities.

In 2024, One Acre Fund helped the farmers it works with earn a total of \$434 million worth of new profits and assets.

One Acre Fund also operates a "Systems Change" platform through which it engages in

partnerships with both private and public sector actors to improve the entire agricultural ecosystem. This work enables One Acre Fund to reach millions of additional farm families beyond its core program.

What makes One Acre Fund so effective

Cost-effectiveness

In 2024, farmers repaid 96% of their average US\$43 loans, which covered 74% of One Acre Fund's program costs. This means each farmer only requires an average \$19.59 in donations to close the gap between field revenues and expenses.

Impact

From 2022–2024, One Acre Fund farmers saw an average increase of ~35% in farm income, or about US\$124 in incremental profit each year. They also experienced significant reductions in rates of household hunger. [\[2\]](#)

Rapid growth

In 2024 One Acre Fund served 5,500,000 farm families across ten sub-Saharan African countries, impacting the lives of 29 million family members. By 2030, that number is expected to increase to 10 million.

Financial sustainability

One Acre Fund's scalable model enables the cost to serve beneficiaries to decrease over time as the program becomes more efficient and generates economies of scale. Today, every \$1 invested by a donor creates \$4.43 in new income and assets for farmers.

Continuous innovation

One Acre Fund has conducted hundreds of rigorous trials on both agricultural and non-agricultural interventions ranging from crop diversity and tree seedling distribution to solar lights and health insurance. [\[3\]](#)

Local infrastructure

In 2024, 98% of One Acre Fund's Africa-based roles were filled by African nationals. By the end of 2025, One Acre Fund will recruit, manage, and deliver professional development services to over 9,000 African national employees.

Environmental conservation

One Acre Fund’s core agricultural work seeks to boost climate resilience for smallholder families via crop insurance, improved soil health, crop diversification, optimized seed choice, modern agricultural training, and agroforestry. As of 2025, they have planted over 350 million trees.

One Acre Fund’s accountability

One Acre Fund has been validated through rigorous due diligence and funding from many of the sector’s leading donors. This includes the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Global Innovation Fund, Skoll Foundation, and Big Bang Philanthropy — a consortium of individuals and foundations committed to funding the best solutions to extreme poverty. [4].

In addition, One Acre Fund is committed to a robust set of internal controls. This includes financial tracking systems to monitor expenditures, fraud reporting trainings for all staff, and a rigorous schedule of internal and external audits. They publicly detail their long-term impact, methodology, and results from randomized trials, and publish annual performance and financial reports. [2].[3].[5].[6].[9].

Recognition for One Acre Fund

In 2015, The Global Journal ranked One Acre Fund #15 on its list of the world’s Top 500 NGOs, and in 2016, One Acre Fund received the World Food Prize Norman Borlaug Award for Field Research. A 2016 TED talk by One Acre Fund’s CEO has received over 1.5 million views. In 2022, One Acre Fund won the Nicholas Kristof Holiday Impact Prize and in 2023, it won the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize. [7]

SOURCES

All photos and videos courtesy of One Acre Fund

[1] Farm Africa, [Crops](#)

[2] [One Acre Fund website](#) – Our impact

[3] [One Acre Fund website](#) – Rigorous evaluations

[4] [One Acre Fund website](#) – Press and awards

[5] [One Acre Fund website](#) – Methodology

[6] [One Acre Fund website](#) – Reports

[7] TED, [3 reasons why we can win the fight against poverty](#)

[8] [The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2019](#)

[9] [One Acre Fund blog](#)