

Company: Magos Farm Enterprises Limited

Quick Facts

Sector: Agriculture/Agribusiness

Core Business/Subsector: Rice

Initiative Duration: May 2018 to May 2020

Number of SEs targeted: 1,000 (M500, F500)

Target Counties: Kisumu and Busia

Leadership: Female Owned

Management: Regularly audited financials, tax compliant, valid operating license, > USD 630K in Turnover, > USD 425K in Gross Profit and > USD 270K in Net Equity in 2017.

Business Profile

Magos Farm Enterprise Limited (MFEL) is a farm input and output supplier incorporated in 2016 that works with farmers in Kenya and Uganda operating in the sorghum, passion fruit, rice and legume value chains. In rice specifically, MFEL works with farmers in Kisumu, Siaya and Busia counties. As a farm input supplier MFEL is an agent of major chemical/seed companies and equipment manufacturers. MFEL is a distributor for farm inputs to over 35 agro-dealers in Western region. MFEL also provides agronomical services through their agronomists including one of its directors.

Through its collaboration with MEDA as part of the M-SAWA project, MFEL aims to support 1,000 SEs (M500, F500) in Kisumu and Busia counties to improve the quality and quantity of rice produced while linking rice farmers to end markets. This will be accomplished through supporting rice farmers to ensure reduction in losses due to diseases and pest control as well as sensitizing farmers on good agricultural practices (GAP) to improve quality and quantity of rice produced. In addition, MFEL sensitizes and encourages adoption of appropriate technologies and enhances market linkages for rice farmers.



MFEL training on chemical application on a demo farm in West Kano Irrigation Scheme, Kisumu County

Key Commitments

Business: 1) To reduce losses by rice farmers due to disease and pest control issues; 2) To enhance market linkages; 3) To improve quality and quantity of rice produced by farmers.

Gender: 1) Identify and appoint gender focal person to champion gender initiatives within the rice value chain and MFEL operations in leadership, book-keeping, spraying, and harvesting; 2) Engage at least 500 women for training and capacity building on various rice production advanced technologies such as power tillers, push weeders and small-scale combined rice harvester to enhance production.

Environment: 1) Train 1,000 farmers (M500, F500) on safe use of chemicals and waste disposal containers; 2) Work with a trained spraying team to offer spraying services to 1,000 (M500, F500) farmers and ensure MFEL trained spraying team is provided with personal protective equipment during their field work.

Highlights of Progress to Date (As of 31st December 2018)

- Business** – MFEL has trained 326 (M164, F162) farmers on GAP in both Kisumu (286 - M144, F142) and Busia (40 - M20, F20) while supporting crop rotation and offering agronomical services for a fee. To tackle the issue of market access and linkages, MFEL is in negotiation with Dodore Kenya Limited (potential off-taker) to purchase SEs' rice. MFEL has distributed 629 hermetic bags to 120 SEs (M91, F29) which protects dried rice and other pulses/cereals from damage without the use of expensive pesticides. In seeking to improve quality and quantity of rice produced by SEs, MFEL continues to offer agronomical services to SEs as well as Near Infrared Region (NIR) soil testing services to advise farmers on the soil types appropriate for different crops and crop rotation management benefiting 326 (M164, F162) SEs.
- Gender** – 2 Gender Focal Persons (M1, F1) were appointed to help sensitize on gender matters at the company and farmer levels. MEDA Gender Specialist trained 20 MFEL staff and agents/lead farmers (M10, F10) on gender equality awareness using a Train the Trainer (TOT) approach. In addition, 162 of 326 SEs (50%) reached so far by the project are female.
- Environment** – MFEL has developed various environmentally friendly training modules in areas of crop rotation and trained 326 SEs (M164, F162) encouraging them to adopt this practice. A total of 10 spraying SEs (M10) have been trained to offer spraying services at a fee available to all 1,000 SEs in the project. To date a total of 326 SEs (M164, F162) have been sensitized on the availability of spraying services from the 10 SEs trained.