

Borrower Overview

Minimex is the largest producer of fine maize products in Rwanda, and began operating in 2006. The Company purchases maize primarily from Rwandan smallholder farmers, cooperatives, and traders, as well as from countries within the same region including Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. The Bramin mechanized and Irrigated Maize farm, Bramin farm, is a joint venture between Minimex and Bralirwam, the Heineken Group brewery in Rwanda. It represents one of the first modern large-scale maize farming enterprises in Rwanda. The farm has 260-ha under irrigation, and the maize from the Bramin farm provides one response to the challenge to secure a significant quantity of consistent quality maize for Minimex milling operations.

Impact Focus

Agriculture is the backbone of the economy, with 89% of rural households practicing small-scale farming [1]. Minimex is a critical player within the Rwanda maize value chain, and as one of the largest processors/millers in the country, Minimex has capacity to source significant volumes from smallholder farmers. In 2020, the Company supported over 22 000 smallholder farmers through direct procurement.

38.2% of the Rwandan population continues to live below the poverty line and almost one fifth is food insecure [1]. Minimex is one of the only processors who produces fortified maize flour which enhances the availability, consumption, and nutritional value of the products for the clientele of Minimex. This is the normal maize meal supplemented with vitamins (A and B) and minerals (Iron, Zinc), according to the Rwanda and East African standard. As a consequence, Minimex contributes positively towards food security and nutritional diversity in Rwanda.

The Company owns and operates the Bramin farm which provides training for farmers and proof of concept for surrounding farmers in increasing their own farm yields (8tons/ha versus national average of 2tons/ha). In addition, Minimex paid c. 15.3% premium to the EAX price which shows additional income upliftment to farmers.

References

1. World Food Programme, 2002, Rwanda Country Brief.



Food Security



Access to Capital

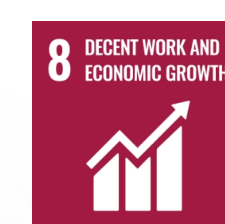


Sustainable Production

Facility Size: USD 2mn

6 956 Female Smallholders Supported

22 438 Smallholders Supported



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