

## chukwuma ukpai's New Entry: wealth creation through youths engagement in innovative crop production.

NigeriaGboko, Nigeria  
chukwuma ukpai



Year Founded:  
2014

**Organization type:**

hybrid

Project Stage:

Idea

**Budget:**


\$10,000 - \$50,000

**Twitter:**

[http://twitter.com/geometri\\_x](http://twitter.com/geometri_x)

**Facebook:**

<https://www.changemakers.com/facebook.com/chukwuma%20Ukpai>

 SHARE

- [Employment](#)
- [Income generation](#)
- [Labor](#)
- [Youth development](#)
- [Community development](#)
- [Food security](#)
- [Poverty alleviation](#)
- [Sustainable development](#)
- [Migration](#)

### Project Summary

#### Elevator Pitch

**Concise Summary: Help us pitch this solution! Provide an explanation within 3-4 short sentences.**

There are thousands of unemployed and consequently poor youths littered in gboko,my farming location.Yet there are thousands of unploughed lands suitable for crop production.I observed that there is a general apathy among them because of the drudgery associated with using simple hands implements.

**WHAT IF - Inspiration: Write one sentence that describes a way that your project dares to ask, "WHAT IF?"**

what if farming could be so challenging,yet so stimulating and fun?

#### About Project

**Problem: What problem is this project trying to address?**

This project addresses youth unemployment.It improves access to lands for crop production, for food security and industrial purposes;in a more humane way.This translates to more wealth generating opportunities for youths and by a large extent a sustainable form of mechanisation for crop production in my locality.

**Solution: What is the proposed solution? Please be specific!**

This project aims at providing the service of 2 wheeled tractors at affordable rates to the teeming youths, to engage in crop production.After subscribing to our service,every client would be attended to in a unique way after indentifying what he/she needs to be able to produce a crop. The primary activity of this solution consists of contractual land preparation mostly on credit basis.This would both serve as an incentive and motivation for both existing and prospective youths.The point of our engagement would be after contract papers has been signed by both parties after an agreement on modalities witnessed by representatives of Local Government Extension office and a local security officer called Vigilantee in Gboko.

**Awards**

none

Impact: How does it Work

**Example: Walk us through a specific example(s) of how this solution makes a difference; include its primary activities.**

Aondofaa is both poor and under employed. He does menial jobs including farm work for sustenance and he sits regularly at the village square with his friends of the same status discussing about football, local politics and other emerging news partly because there is little he can do with his hands and has no money for extra hands. He subscribes to our service and has his lands prepared for him to pay on a later and agreed date. The contract was witnessed and attested to by both the farm extension office and local security outfit so that both parties would not default on their contractual obligations. The farm extension officer guides him with the best agronomic practice till he harvests ...

**Impact: What is the impact of the work to date? Also describe the projected future impact for the coming years.**

The drudgery involved with the use of simple hands tools and implements has caused many farmers and a great number of youths which incidentally constitute about 70% of our nation's food producers to have either left or plan to leave farming. Being that agricultural mechanization is one the serious problem inhibiting increased agricultural production and the the threat of food security in Nigeria. The project will prepare about 2000 acres of lands for different clients in the first year of operation. 2550 and 3300 acres of land approximately is projected to be prepared in the second and third year of operation. We estimate that over 40% of our target market being the youths will be motivated to go back to the farms because of our solution because exhaustion and loss of man's hours will be greatly minimized. Our solution would also create jobs and provides wealth creation opportunities.

**Spread Strategies: Moving forward, what are the main strategies for scaling impact?**

The spread strategy consist of (1) seeking funding to invest and procure the 18hp of the 2 wheeled tractors ,which has the same functionality as the 4 wheeled tractors in the interim. Invest in technological and more time saving farm machines in the upcoming years to take care of our growth potentials. (2) We would also engage in commercial crop production of specific in demand crops per time on contractual basis with our machineries. (3) Establishment of farm-firm linkages that would guarantee assured markets, reduced risk, technology extension and market information both for services and clients.

Sustainability

**Financial Sustainability Plan: What is this solution's plan to ensure financial sustainability?**

This solution will be sustained primarily by (1) the earnings and revenues from our clients. (2) we would also diversify into commercial crop production through the avenue of contract farming with selected crop producers in the long run after a good feasibility studies.

**Marketplace: Who else is addressing the problem outlined here? How does the proposed project differ from these approaches?**

The providers of the 4 wheeled tractors. The proposed project is different from their services because majority of farmlands in my locality is on a subsistent level ,and the topography of most of these lands are outside the scope of work that the 4 wheeled tractors can do. There is also the factor of cost per hectare of the 4 wheeled tractor which is unaffordable to most small farm holders ,which we have outlined to adjust the rule of our engagement to be more flexible, affordable and cost effective.

Team

**Founding Story**

Followed my Dad to the farm as a kid and relishing on the both the experience and potentials in farming, i ventured into farming in 2012. I had challenges and the top of it was accessing farm labors to prepare my lands. This was despite the fact that i already had an agreement to that effect with some locals that are skilled in that regard. The few that were into land preparation of farmlands were scarce and always have their schedule tight. This often often lead to shoddy work, late planting, exhaustion and blisters on the part of the laborers. My farms was later prepared late and the yield was not so good. I had to engage them much early the next planting season and... And aha

**Team**

The team is made up of Mr. chukwuma, a Farmer and an Entrepreneur; Mr. Ter war, an experienced and well seasoned Farm Manager; Mr. Ralph Dav, a Soil Scientist and a farm Extension Officer with the State Government.

Background

**Please confirm how you heard about the Unilever Awards:**

i saw the link on twitter

**Please confirm your role in the initiative (eg Founder/co-Founder) and your organisational title:**

Founder

**Which of the 8 UN Global Goals (Sustainable Development Goals) pre-selected for this competition does your solution relate most closely to? [select all that apply]**

No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Decent Work and Economic Growth.

Leadership and the Unilever Awards

**Please provide examples of any previous entrepreneurial initiatives you have pioneered.**

CEO Geometrix Technologies. A mobile phone Technician Company since 2006

A practising Farmer for 3 consecutive years and still counting.

**Beyond your existing team, who else are you working with to achieve your objectives, eg partners, advisors, mentors?**

Mr. Ola Emmanuel, a Consultant and Certified Trainer, International Labour Organisation on Entrepreneurship Development.

---

**Source URL:** <https://www.changemakers.com/globalgoals2015/entries/chukwuma-ukpais-new-entry>