Acronyms

aBi: Agricultural Business Initiative Development Limited
ACAI: African Cassava Agronomy Initiatives
AGRA: Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
ARF: Applied Research Fund
BMGF: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
CA: Commodity Association
CAT: Commodity Association Trader/Trainer
CBSM: Community Based Seed Multiplication
CDP: Community Demonstration Plot
CIMMYT: International Center for Maize and Wheat Research
COP: Country Operation Plan
CP: Community Practice
CPE: Crop Productivity Enhancement
CSIA: Community Saving for Investment in Agribusiness
CST: Climate-Smart Technology
CSV: Climate-Smart Village
EA: Extension Agent
EC: Enterprise Centers
FLP: Farmer Learning Platform
GAP: Good Agricultural Practice
IFAD: International Fund for Agricultural Development
IITA: International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
IPR/IFRA: Rural Polytechnic Institute for Training and Applied Research (Mali)
JICA: Japan International Cooperation Agency
MAAIF: Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (Uganda)
MAP: Model Adoption Plot
MERC: Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Communications
MoC: Memorandum of Cooperation
MoU: Memorandum of Understanding
NF: The Nippon Foundation
NGO: Non-Governmental Organization
NIRSAL: Nigeria Initiative-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending
NWO: Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research
NuME: Nutritious Maize for Ethiopia
PHAP: Postharvest Handling and Agro-processing
PHTC: Postharvest and Trade Center
PICS: Purdue Improved Crop Storage
PwDs: People with Disabilities
PSP: Private Service Provider
SAA: Sasakawa Africa Association
SAFE: Sasakawa Africa Fund for Extension Education
SEP: Supervised Enterprise Project
SG 2000: Sasakawa Global 2000
SP: Strategic Plan
TAP: Technology Adoption Plot
ToT: Training of Trainers
VCC: Value Chain Centres
VODP: Vegetable Oil Development Project
VSLA: Village Savings and Loan Association
WAD: Women Assisted Demonstration
WFP: World Food Programme
The Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA) focuses its operations on four country programs in Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria and Uganda. Originally operated as Sasakawa Global 2000 (SG 2000) through a joint venture with the Carter Center of Atlanta, Georgia (USA), SAA served as the lead management organization while former US President Jimmy Carter and his advisors worked through the Global 2000 Program to provide policy advice to national political leaders in support of program objectives. Funding for SAA comes principally from The Nippon Foundation, whose Chairman is Mr Yohei Sasakawa and President is Mr Takeju Ogata. SAA was founded in 1986 by Mr Ryoichi Sasakawa, Dr Norman E Borlaug and President Jimmy Carter. SG 2000 is still widely used to describe SAA country programs.

SAA relies on the Sasakawa Africa Fund for Extension Education (SAFE) - once a legally separate organisation also funded by The Nippon Foundation, but now amalgamated to form One SAA - to provide leadership for building human resource capacity in agricultural extension. The primary focus of SAA is improving the livelihood of smallholder farmers’ in the field, whilst the SAFE program is committed to delivering human resource development programs, in partnership with agricultural colleges and universities in Africa.
Thus, in 1986 the Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA) was born, based on the belief that Africa actually did have the resources to feed itself. SAA's target was the millions of smallholder farmers across the continent struggling to avoid the poverty trap. The technology to transform farmers’ fields did exist in Africa, and in international laboratories, and could, if correctly applied, double or even triple farmers' yields of staple food crops – and the benefits could be demonstrated on their own land.

The first Sasakawa Global 2000 program, incorporating the Carter Center’s Global 2000 initiative and focusing on agriculture extension, began in Ghana in 1986. The operation of SAA has since been reinforced by SAFE, which started in 1992 focusing on improving the skills and knowledge of thousands of mid-career extension agents (EAs).

For over 30 years, SAA has worked in 15 countries across the continent with the firm support of The Nippon Foundation. Currently, SAA operates, and has country offices in, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Mali and Uganda, which are known as focus countries, with a SAFE program also operating in seven additional countries.

Through all these years, Yohei Sasakawa and The Nippon Foundation have remained faithful to the legacy of Dr Borlaug, who led SAA until 2009 when he died. Indeed, in well over three decades since the formation of SAA, The Nippon Foundation has provided over USD 300 million in support of its programs – an unprecedented figure from a donor to a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) on a continuous basis. It is a record of which it can be proud.

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Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, one of the largest philanthropic foundations in Japan, first experienced Africa through the devastating famine that ravaged the Horn of Africa in 1984/85. His father Ryoichi Sasakawa, Founder and the first Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, was among the first to donate food aid for the crisis. But both Ryoichi and Yohei Sasakawa soon realised that food aid alone was not the answer to the disaster. There had to be a more sustainable way forward. So they turned to two notable men for advice and support: former US President Jimmy Carter and Nobel Laureate Dr Norman Borlaug, whose ‘green revolution’ in the 1960s transformed agriculture in Mexico and the Indian Sub-continent.

Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Dr Akin Adesina, President of African Development Bank, Professor Ruth Oniang’o, Chair of SAA at TICAD VII
When the next history of the Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA) comes to be written in 30 years’ time, the year 2019 will be seen as a year of change, renewal and, perhaps, revitalization.

By the end of the year we had a new President, Dr Makoto Kitanaka, who joined us after a long career with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). His achievements include expanding the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) – which was launched by JICA to double Africa’s rice production within ten years. Such experience and understanding of the role of smallholder farmers in Africa will, I know, serve us well.

Moreover, at our Side Event during the seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VII) in August, a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) was signed between SAA and JICA which will have major significance for smallholder farming and, indeed, Japan’s involvement in African agriculture in the future. We truly look forward to this collaboration.

The other noteworthy development was the appointment of Dr Amit Roy as Vice-Chair of my Board. Dr Roy, of course, had already given valuable service as a Board member. His links with us go back many years as a participant in our conferences and workshops in the distant days of Dr Norman Borlaug and Chris Dowswell – and, indeed, former US President Jimmy Carter. Dr Roy’s contributions, in these days, are now part of our policy, history and legacy. He was the former President and CEO – for 23 years – of the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC).

For much of the above, we owe a debt of gratitude to our mentor, Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, whose influence and support were so noticeable at our TICAD VII Side Event (more fully covered in a separate section of this report). The Nippon Foundation has remained our principal donor since our inception in 1986.

The Side Event, as well as our participation in the African Green Revolution Forum in Accra, Ghana, and the All Africa Post Harvest Congress and Exhibition, were significant opportunities at which we could raise our profile – a process that will continue in 2020 under the guidance of Dr Roy and Dr Kitanaka.

The year 2019 saw, too, a consolidation of our SAA outreach with the incorporation of SAFE into the SAA structure - significantly increasing the number of African countries in which SAA is involved.

So with a strengthened organisation, and after a productive year, we look forward to the new decade with confidence. I wish, on behalf of the Board and the whole SAA fraternity, to thank The Nippon Foundation and Mr Yohei Sasakawa, and all our partners, for their unfailing support and for standing by us. May you all have a positively memorable decade.

Hon. Prof. Ruth Oniang’o
Chair
Sasakawa Africa Association

Hon Professor Ruth Oniang’o is a Kenyan graduate of Washington State University, Pullman, and University of Nairobi. She has taught in Kenyan universities and is Adjunct at Tufts University, Massachusetts.

She spearheaded the completion of Kenya’s food and nutrition policy, facilitated the establishment of nutrition departments in Africa and has given a voice to these issues internationally. She served in the Kenyan Parliament; founded Rural Outreach Africa, to serve women smallholder farmers; and founded the African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development, to highlight African issues. She is Board Chair of the Sasakawa Africa Association and the Sasakawa Africa Fund for Agriculture, Nutrition and Development, to serve women smallholder farmers; and founded the African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development, to highlight African issues. She is Board Chair of the Sasakawa Africa Association and the Sasakawa Africa Fund for Agriculture, Nutrition and Development, to highlight African issues. She is Board Chair of the Sasakawa Africa Association and the Sasakawa Africa Fund for Agriculture, Nutrition and Development, to highlight African issues. She is Board Chair of the Sasakawa Africa Association and the Sasakawa Africa Fund for Agriculture, Nutrition and Development, to highlight African issues. She is Board Chair of the Sasakawa Africa Association and the Sasakawa Africa Fund for Agriculture, Nutrition and Development, to highlight African issues. She is Board Chair of the Sasakawa Africa Association and the Sasakawa Africa Fund for Agriculture, Nutrition and Development, to highlight African issues.

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She received the 2014 International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) Lifetime Award, and is a member of the Board of the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI), which has its headquarters near Wallingford, Oxfordshire, in the UK.

She is a joint recipient of the 2017 Africa Food Prize. She is a strong advocate for nutrition and the eradication of hunger and poverty, as well as women’s empowerment and youth mentoring.
The year 2019 has been a significant year for SAA. We launched our new Strategic Plan (SP) 2019-2023, and continued with the integration of SAA and SAFE at a social, technical and administrative level – with the aim of enhancing synergy and efficiency in our organizational operations. Progress has also been made in the consolidation of SAA extension models to enhance the adoption of field models by universities and public extension systems. Nonetheless, more still remains to be carried out, and we are in the process of developing a well-defined road map of future actions to help complete the integration process.

Throughout the year, SAA continued to actively develop new partnerships, in order to ensure sustainable access to an adequate supply of nutritious food. Fruitful partnerships also assist in scaling out proven technologies and extension models at grassroots level. In 2019, SAA strengthened its collaborative approach by signing Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with Africa Harvest Biotech Foundation International; Nigeria Incentive Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL); The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). SAA also renewed MOUs with the Nigerian and Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture, respectively. Further partnership initiatives with other organizations and governmental bodies are currently in the process of being finalized, ready for implementation in 2020.

In 2019, SAA participated in a total of 16 global conferences/meetings, including in Cape Verde, Cote D’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Nigeria, the Philippines, Senegal, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and USA. SAA staff and representatives at the events delivered presentations to increase our visibility, as well as manning exhibition booths showcasing SAA’s achievements. Our involvement in TICAD VII in Yokohama, Japan, was particularly significant – the MoC with JICA was formalized at TICAD VII, and will see the two organizations work strategically to implement the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP) approach in Africa. Our annual regional thematic meeting held in April 2019 saw SAA program staff come together to discuss and plan for the year ahead.

We ended our matrix management approach in 2019, and a new Planning and Programming Section was launched at the Regional Office, in order to increase SAA’s global network and partnerships as well as scale up SAA operations, and improve our resource base. Additionally, the systematic review of our Human Resources (HR) system was finalized, and the newly established HR systems will be implemented in 2020 to improve organizational efficiency.

As part of our expanding SAFE program, new partnerships were launched at the Catholic University of Mozambique and Njala University in Sierra Leone, with further expansion planned for Liberia in 2021.

Moving forward, SAA will continue to build its growing network by developing partnerships with universities, research institutes, government ministries, donors, non-governmental organizations and international organizations. We will continue to focus our efforts on scaling up proven agricultural technologies, in line with our mission of transforming agriculture in Africa.

Dr Makoto Kitanaka

Dr Kitanaka was appointed President of SAA on November 5, 2019. He joins SAA following thirty years at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), where he also served as the Director General of the Department of Rural Development. Dr Kitanaka’s achievements include expanding the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) – an initiative launched by JICA to double African rice production within ten years – as well as expanding the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion in Africa (SHEP), and launching the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA).

Dr Kitanaka works closely alongside SAA Chair Professor Ruth Oniang’o, and Vice-Chair Dr Amit Roy, to lead SAA as it enters a new decade, and to continue contributing to agricultural transformation in Africa.

Signing ceremony of MOC with JICA at TICAD VII (From left, Dr Shinichi Kitaoka, President of JICA, Mr Hiroshi Kato, Senior Vice President of JICA, Professor Ruth Oniang’o, Chair of SAA, Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation)
SAA recorded tangible progress in the implementation of extension programs and advisory services in 2019. We worked across our operating countries to implement innovative extension models and to address challenges, such as low productivity, poor quality grain produce, high postharvest losses, and low skills in human resources. Addressing cross-cutting issues of inclusivity was also at the core of our activities.

Throughout the year, we worked to increase farmers’ knowledge and skills by facilitating numerous on-farm demonstrations. Such demonstrations were combined with building market linkages to create sustainable farming along the entire value chain, and improving access to loans for reinvestment in agriculture.

New models of Postharvest Handling and Agro-processing (PHAP) machines and hermetic storage technologies have also been promoted, resulting in widespread adoption by smallholder farmers. Additionally, the establishment of private service provision enterprises in target rural communities has encouraged greater participation from the youth, women, and people with disabilities.

In line with our Human Resource Development initiative, SAFE curriculum underwent a review in Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria and Sierra Leone to identify areas for improvement and further development. As part of efforts to enhance evidence used in capacity building programs, technical workshops as well as needs assessments were regularly carried out, including assessing components needed for the Demand Driven Curriculum (DDC) model in Benin, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria and Uganda. An evaluation of the Enterprise Centers was also carried out in Mali and Nigeria. Furthermore, regular stakeholders’ planning and management meetings were organized to discuss collaboration and implementation of activities across SAA’s areas of operation.

We have continued to channel efforts towards a robust evidence-based Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Communications (MERC) system. Regular output and outcome monitoring were carried out throughout the year, and we avidly recorded success stories, accomplishments and achievements resulting from SAA interventions. Moreover, SAA initiated the development of a database system and revision of the M&E framework to enhance efficiency in operations. Baseline studies are currently being carried out for the new SP, in order to establish benchmarks in measuring the impact of our intervention in rural communities. Media relations were also strengthened through partnerships and engagement with major government and private media institutions, which helped publicize SAA’s work in Africa.

In the coming year, SAA will continue to strengthen its partnerships, conduct regular program planning, consolidate extension models, establish Value Chain Centers (VCC), and finalize the M&E framework. We will also continue working on the development of a communications plan with the aim of helping SAA grow towards being an evidenced-based organization, which disseminates proven technologies along the entire value chain.

Vision, Mission and Strategic Goals of SAA

SUPER GOAL
Improve food, nutrition security and the livelihood of smallholder farmers in SAA’s countries of operation.

OVERALL GOAL
Encourage national governments to scale-up extension models promoting sustainable food and nutrition security.

VISION
A Sub-Saharan Africa free from hunger and poverty, sustainably producing nutritious food in an eco-friendly, market oriented, and socially viable system.

MISSION
Working in partnership with public and private stakeholders, in particular extension advisory services, SAA will take a lead in influencing the inclusive transformation of African agriculture to empower smallholder farmers to sustainably increase productivity and income in response to market demand.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Goal:
Encourage the adoption of agricultural extension models by universities and the public extension system, to promote nutrition and food security.

Intermediate Goal:
Enhance sustainable access to an adequate supply of nutritious food, with a focus on target households.

Expected Result 1:
Consolidation of SAA’s agricultural extension models along the value chain to improve productivity, nutrition, and the income of smallholder farmers.

Expected Result 2:
Enhance evidence on the effectiveness of SAA’s agricultural extension models.

Expected Result 3:
Increase availability of human, financial and technical resources through collaborative partnerships.

Expected Result 4:
Improve relevance of SAA models to the needs of governments, universities and agricultural colleges.

Expected Result 5:
Increase awareness among stakeholders in government and universities about SAA models.

Expected Result 6:
Strengthen administration and finance to increase the efficiency of program operations.
Resource mobilisation

SAA continues to receive the long-term and valued support of The Nippon Foundation, as our primary funder. Nevertheless, SAA is always striving to diversify its funding sources, to further strengthen and utilize the support of The Nippon Foundation. Funding is used to scale up our operations, introduce new technologies, and increase capacity building efforts.

In 2019, SAA continued to implement two projects funded by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), which commits to promoting and upscaling market-oriented approaches to improve income and food security in Nigeria and Ethiopia. In Ethiopia, SAA finalized the implementation of the Nutritious Maize for Ethiopia (NuME) project, funded by the International Center for Maize and Wheat Research (CIMMYT).

In Mali, SAA continued to implement a project on foundation seed production funded by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). In Nigeria, SAA advanced the promotion of agricultural productivity with the support of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD), and administered an Agro-Processing Productivity Enhancement and Livelihood Improvement Support Project (APPEALS) funded by the World Bank.

The activities of African Cassava Agronomy Initiatives (ACAI), funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) through partnership with IITA, were also realized. In Uganda, SAA implemented several projects funded by the Ministry of Agriculture (Vegetable Oil Development Project), Agricultural Business Initiative Development Limited (aBi), K+S Kali GmbH of Germany, as well as the World Food Programme (WFP).

SAA Values

PASSION
Empower farmers and other key actors along the value chain.

INTEGRITY
Act with honesty, transparency, and professionalism.

QUALITY
Continuously work to improve with the Spirit of Kaizen.

CHALLENGE, INNOVATE, AND SELF-REFLECT
Have the courage to take risks, be open to new ideas, learn from experiences, and to be humble as well as confident.

TEAM SPIRIT
Respect and support each other.

SAA Organizational Structure
The main objective of the Crop Productivity Enhancement (CPE) theme is to increase agricultural productivity for smallholder farmers while strengthening the capacities and skills of national EAs.

Intervention strategies within this theme center on establishing manageable, scalable and gender-balanced extension models including, but not limited to, Farmer Learning Platforms (FLPs), Community Based Seed Multiplication (CBSM), Climate Smart Villages (CSVs), and VCCs. Used to train farmers and partner EAs, FLPs are composed of four extension plot types: Community Demonstration Plots (CDPs) illustrating increasing crop productivity, Technology Adoption Plots (TAPs) utilized by early adopters, Model Adoption Plots (MAPs) implemented by farmers who employ technological packages demonstrated in the CDPs, and Community Practices (CPs) administered by non-participating farmers using traditional cropping practices. In order to implement the above extension models, the needs of smallholder farmers were assessed to identify gaps in knowledge and technology in SAA host-farming communities. As well as establishing FLPs, SAA also provided training to smallholder farmers and EAs, tailored to their needs.

**Differences in crop yield through the use of Climate Smart Technologies (CSTs)**

In 2019, a total of 3,537 CDPs were established, and 264,372 TAPs and 609 MAPs identified across all projects. Training provided by SAA had a considerable outreach, including 495,733 farmers, 2,769 EAs, and 89,036 partners who attended field days. Climate smart technological packages – a key component of FLPs – were promoted, and contributed to cost-effective water harvesting techniques and drought tolerant varieties of priority crops, including millet, cowpea, sesame and sorghum.

Overall, the adoption of technological packages using climate-smart practices showed significantly higher crop yield compared to results obtained through CPs. An average productivity increase of over 100% was recorded across countries and crop varieties. Similarly, increases were also recorded in cereal crops, including millet (89%), and sorghum (50%). The results clearly indicate that CSTs significantly increase crop productivity, and can effectively mitigate the negative impact of climate change, such as dry spells, on crop performance.

**Outlook and way forward**

The effects of climate change on farmers’ productivity is evident, and so in 2019, SAA intensified its focus on climate smart agriculture. Such measures support SAA’s ongoing commitment to ensuring food security, whilst preserving smallholder farmers’ ability to generate income along the value chain. Working in collaboration with JICA, SAA will promote the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (SHEP) approach, which works to improve smallholder farmers’ motivation, and ensure their success in farming as a business. This innovative approach is also expected to support farmers scale out market-oriented production technologies.

### Farmer Learning Platforms (FLPs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>CDPs</th>
<th>TAPs</th>
<th>MAPs</th>
<th>EAs</th>
<th>Farmers</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>1,447</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>28,176</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>1,595</td>
<td>231,570</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>1,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>1,388</td>
<td>1,388</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 1</td>
<td>1,355</td>
<td>2,182</td>
<td>3,238</td>
<td>261,134</td>
<td>1,036</td>
<td>1,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 2</td>
<td>3,537</td>
<td>264,372</td>
<td>609</td>
<td>2,820</td>
<td>249,639</td>
<td>89,579</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C Core Projects; EC Extra Core Projects; Total 1 Project specific; Total 2 Across Projects
CDP Community Demo Plot; TAP Technology Adoption Plot; MAP Model Adoption Plot; EA Extension Agent
The objective of the Postharvest Handling and Agro-processing (PHAP) theme is to add value to smallholder farmers’ produce by improving their productivity, nutrition and income-generating activities. Enterprise-oriented PHAP models being implemented individually and in combination with other models along the value chain, include Private Service Providers (PSPs), Agro-processing Enterprises (APE), and Postharvest Technology Promotion (PHTP). In all its activities, the PHAP model strives to integrate crosscutting issues of nutrition and inclusiveness.

**FOCUS AREAS AND KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

SAA staff and partners are thoroughly briefed and sensitized on agricultural extension models, in order to fully recognize the importance of integrating PHAP interventions along the value chain.

**Technology Promotion (PHTP Model)**

Following technology demonstrations during field days, MDG Ventures in Nigeria reported sales of four rice mills, eight rice de-stoners, 12 maize shellers and four portable rice harvesters. The government of Jigawa also procured 50 threshers, 70 maize shellers, 150 portable rice harvesters, 80 mini rice mills and 300 planters to support farmers in their operations. In Uganda, a total of 3,657 Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS) bags and 193 PHAP machineries were acquired by farmers from linked suppliers.

**Training of Trainers (ToT) and farmers**

A total of 2,109 EAs, development agents (DAs), community-based facilitators (CBFs), and farmer leaders were trained on improved postharvest and storage technologies to improve productivity and product quality, reduce losses, and increase smallholder farmers’ income. A total of 260,393 farmers (254,133 male and 6,260 female) subsequently received training from the trainers.

**Strengthening private service providers (PSP Model)**

The increasing adoption of PHAP technologies resulted in increased demands for technologies, as well as repair and maintenance services. To address this issue, the PHAP team identified individuals or groups, with a specific focus on youth, whom were then capacitated to fill this gap. A total of 404 technicians (379 male and 25 female) were trained on machine operation, repair and maintenance.

**Improving agro-processing and nutrition (APE model)**

The APE model focuses on improving agro-processing to advance hygiene, quality and food safety, reduce drudgery, and develop income-generating activities – particularly for women. In 2019, new processing enterprises were established, including a Fufu processing enterprise in Nigeria which benefitted from upgraded equipment.

A total of 119 women, EAs, health officers, and farmers received training on improving nutrition for rural households, and balanced diet preparation. The training sessions also encouraged men to participate – many of whom now allocate an increased budget for family meals.

**Plan for 2020**

The expanding implementation of enterprise-oriented PHAP extension models results in enhanced produce quality, and therefore increases the income of smallholder farmers. PHAP will continue to promote technically and economically proven technologies, and to encourage their widespread adoption amongst farmers.

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Footnote: Fufu is a staple food in many West African countries made from fermented and ground starchy cassava roots. It is a typical side dish for protein-rich food.
The main objective of Business Development is to promote profitable, sustainable market-oriented agriculture among smallholder farmers.

**FOCUS AREA**

SAA perceives the increasing unemployment levels among youth in Africa as an opportunity to create, innovate and support resilient-building measures, as well as stimulating commercial farming towards enhancing smallholder farmers’ food security and income earning potentials. To address the high level of unemployment, which is often exacerbated by limited entrepreneurial skills, SAA sets out to create rural employment opportunities for the youth, women and people with disabilities (PwDs). To achieve this, the Business Development strand builds strategic partnerships, which boost farming as a business. Linking smallholder farmers to markets are considered a critical part of any long-term development strategy to reduce poverty and hunger.

Agronomic support services alone are often not enough to achieve large scale poverty reduction and resilience in rural communities, as a result, SAA has spearheaded a number of activities which promote shifting production to agribusiness-based investment programs. Strategies include market analysis, enterprise selection, contract farming, and strengthening local business developments to support the value chain. The effects of agribusiness-based approaches can be dramatic for farmers who are ready to engage with markets, but who lack the necessary support to carry out collective action. It is therefore crucial smallholder farmers increasingly adopt Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) which strengthen the value chain, and improve access to extension. SAA has championed many such models in Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria and Uganda, including CBSM, Commodity Association Trader/Trainer (CAT) and Community Saving for Investment in Agribusiness (CSIA). The models have created cohesion among FOs, and created jobs for the youth, women and PwDs.

**Plan for 2020**

SAA has dependable, field-tested models which reach grassroots farmers and disseminate modern agricultural techniques required to increase productivity. By working with partners and national agricultural extension services, SAA’s models enable smallholder farmers to manage their finances, acquire inputs, and market their produce more successfully.

Kenneth Katwaza stands outside his agricultural input shop, located in the Ntungamo district of Uganda. Kenneth actively encourages the youth to engage in service provision to elicit fruitful business.

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**SAA 2019 Achievements in Public Private Partnership and Market Access**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DETAILS</th>
<th>ETHIOPIA</th>
<th>MALI</th>
<th>NIGERIA</th>
<th>UGANDA</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of farmers accessing agribusiness services</td>
<td>4,496</td>
<td>4,040</td>
<td>380,534</td>
<td>24,963</td>
<td>414,033</td>
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<td>Amount of credit accessed from banks (USD)</td>
<td>15,600</td>
<td>73,756</td>
<td>28,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Produce collectively marketed (MT) by Farmer Groups</td>
<td>2,576</td>
<td>8,800</td>
<td>295,028</td>
<td>1,416</td>
<td>307,820</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount earned in (USD) by Farmer Groups</td>
<td>1,246,452</td>
<td>2,264,150</td>
<td>64,906,028</td>
<td>565,162</td>
<td>68,981,792</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of commercial MoUs reached with off-takers</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td>Number of Business Plans developed by farmer Groups</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of money saved (USD) by Farmer Groups</td>
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<td>5,723</td>
<td>48,035</td>
<td>217,535</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Women, PwDs, Youth Trained on Leadership</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>69</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Sasakawa Africa Fund for Extension Education (SAFE) integrates African universities and agricultural colleges into the agricultural development process, as well as expanding and strengthening the knowledge and skills of frontline agricultural service providers.

**Program spread in Africa**

As of 2019, SAFE operates in 11 countries, through 27 partner institutions (25 universities and two agricultural colleges). Overall, implementation of SAFE programs throughout the year had a wide outreach, with positive effects recorded among key stakeholders – including employers, students, farmers and SAFE alumni.

**Key focus in 2019**

In 2019, efforts were made to increase awareness of SAFE field models among partner universities and agricultural colleges. Employers continued to improve the training of their staff through the program, with students demonstrating improved competence in the skills they acquired. Farmers reported an increase in their income, which improved livelihoods, following the adoption of technologies introduced through Supervised Enterprise Projects (SEPs). SAFE graduates were also reported to have been promoted to more senior positions following their graduation.

**Student intake and graduates**

The number of SAFE students and graduates continued to grow in 2019, with a total of 532 students (370 males, 162 females) joining the program, and 373 students (211 male, 162 female) graduating. It is worth noting, however, that student intake was affected by national policies, including Ghana’s decentralization, and Ethiopia’s New Education Development Roadmap. In this context, various workshops were organized with stakeholders to align the SAFE program with country’s respective policies.

**Engaging stakeholders and partners**

In January, February, and March 2019, the annual joint stakeholders’ planning meetings were held in SAA’s focus countries. The meetings brought together lecturers from partner institutions to discuss upcoming activities for the year ahead. A total of 26 lecturers attended the meetings. In Sierra Leone and Mozambique, the SAFE demand-driven curriculum (SDDC) was developed and validated in collaboration with stakeholders. Partner institutions received a series of Training of Trainers (ToT) workshops on module development and curriculum review, to ensure participating institutions adhere to SAFE’s expected standards and principles. Technical backstopping and supervisory visits were also carried out in all country programs. Additionally, 88 lecturers and partners attended ToT workshops on the value chain oriented SEPs component of SDDC. A total of nine lecturers from Mozambique, Sierra Leone and Nigeria participated in exchange visits to receive mentoring, network and learn about the SDDC model.

**Workshops**

A series of SEPs workshops and supervisions were conducted in participating universities and agricultural colleges to assess the learning and development objectives of SEPs, and to technically backstop students’ projects. During these workshops, a total of 353 SEPs projects and 442 SEPs proposals were presented across the countries. 65% of the SEPs were implemented along the entire commodity value chain.

The biannual SAFE continental workshop was held in May 2019, in Ethiopia, under the theme of “Mainstreaming SAA field level models in the midcareer curricula of Universities and Agricultural Colleges in Africa”. The workshop was attended by over 80 participants, including members of SAA’s management team, Winrock International, stakeholders from 27 universities and agricultural colleges, Ministries of Agriculture and alumni associations from 11 countries. The workshop generated key outcomes to guide the mainstreaming of SAFE field level models in SAFE curriculum, including:

- Sensitize stakeholders on SAFE field level extension approaches
- Validate SAFE field level extension approaches in multiple locations around universities and agricultural colleges
- Secure institutional validation and approval of SAFE field level extension approaches within universities/agricultural colleges and ministries
- Collaborate with partner organizations and institutions to validate the models
- Develop the theoretical basis of SAFE field level extension approaches
- Document and publish the outcomes of SAFE field level extension approaches
- Incorporate private sector, finance and insurance services into SAFE field level extension approaches
- Open the SAFE program to high school graduates

Alumni associations in SAFE countries also organized their annual meetings and published their bulletins, which showcase important alumni success stories for distribution among stakeholders. In addition, two female alumni members from Ethiopia and Nigeria attended TICAD VII in Yokohama, Japan, where their success stories were documented and publicized. An MSc student of Makerere University, Uganda, was also identified and supported for his work on SAFE field level models.

Changing policies, turnover of staff and changes in leadership in universities and agricultural colleges, as well as in Ministries of Agriculture, continue to affect intake into the program, calling for the need for regular staff orientation on the SDDC model at country level.
In Sierra Leone and Mozambique, the SAFE demand-driven curriculum (SDDC) was developed and validated in collaboration with stakeholders. Additionally, 88 lecturers and partners attended ToT workshops on the value chain oriented SEPs component of SDDC.

**Key findings**

- The increasing adoption of demand-driven curriculum, value chain oriented SEPs, and Enterprise Centers (EC)
- ECs and SEPs are important for the orientation of youth towards entrepreneurship in agriculture

Statistics of SAFE Students from 1993 to 2019 (as of December 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE Program Universities/Colleges and Countries</th>
<th>Graduated</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
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<thead>
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<th>SCHOLARSHIPS</th>
<th>Graduated</th>
<th>Current</th>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>SUB-TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1,835</strong></td>
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</table>

**Key achievements in 2019**

The number of SAFE students and graduates continued to grow in 2019, with a total of 532 students (370 males, 162 females) joining the program, and 373 students (211 male, 162 female) graduating.

**Training of Lecturers and Partners**

In Sierra Leone and Mozambique, the SAFE demand-driven curriculum (SDDC) was developed and validated in collaboration with stakeholders. Additionally, 88 lecturers and partners attended ToT workshops on the value chain oriented SEPs component of SDDC.

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</table>

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

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<th>Diploma</th>
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<th>Current</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>SUB-TOTAL</strong></td>
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</table>
SAA is committed to gender equality, women’s empowerment and the equitable participation of the youth, women, and PwDs in agriculture. In order to achieve inclusivity, our field model interventions have been tailored to encourage participation from marginalized groups.

**Gender**

Female farmers are trained and supported through Women Assisted Demonstrations (WADs), women-based Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), involvement in CBSM, Climate Smart Village (CSV) initiatives, and youth business clinics. SAA also actively encourages female farmers to work as Community/Commodity Association Traders (CATs), and make use of Farmers’ Saving and agri-business investment schemes. In 2019, at least 30% of those recruited onto SAFE affiliated programs throughout our countries of operation were female. SAA works to achieve greater gender representation in SAFE Capacity Building programs by offering female students scholarships, tailored curricula, and flexibility with their study program, which enables students to work alongside their studies. In Mali, over 90% of agro-processing enterprises are currently implemented by women’s groups.

**Youth**

Producing more food for the growing population in Africa will require more young people to engage with agriculture as a business enterprise. SAA is implementing extension advisory service models, designed to integrate and inform youth of the benefits of farming as a business. Private Service Provisions (PSPs) enterprises also encourage youths to provide inputs and mechanical pre- and post-harvest services to smallholder farmers. In 2019, a total of 2,297 young farmers were involved with SAA initiatives. SAA also facilitated Business Clinics to mentor youths in farming as a business.

**People with Disabilities (PwDs)**

PwDs often report adverse experiences with respect to employment, and participation in decision making processes. To address this challenge, SAA reached out to involve them in profitable agro-processing enterprises, and to enable them to benefit from the value chain. Throughout 2019, our efforts focused on integrating PwDs in SAA’s operations, including in technical, organizational and managerial areas. In Ethiopia, a total of 49 PwD groups were engaged in pre and postharvest interventions. In Mali, SAA carried out business management training, including on enhanced income-generating activities, for five PwD saving groups. PwD groups in Nigeria were involved in Farmer Learning Platform (FLP) demonstrations, which informed them of Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs), and raised their awareness of the value of successful linkages to markets. In Uganda, SAA integrated PwDs in FLPs through training on crop production technologies, and as Community Based Facilitators.

**Nutrition**

In 2019, SAA continued to provide training on nutrition, as part of efforts to improve food security, reduce nutrient deficiency, and increase crop productivity. Participants received information on a range of key topics, including on crop diversification, nutrient rich and biofortified crops, balanced diets, and the misuse of pesticides.

**ICT**

SAA has actively been involved in the digitalization of agriculture, and raising the awareness of smallholder farmers’ on proven technologies. By utilizing available technology, such as mobile phone applications and computer-based farmer databases, SAA keeps its extension staff and farmers abreast of new developments in agriculture. Additionally, SAA has been using Digisoft Digital Classroom System (DCS) kits and radio broadcasts in Ethiopia. In Mali, Uganda and Nigeria, SAA is using various applications, including market intelligence services, which provide information on trading and various crop needs. Such applications are also used to predict weather patterns, and to enable farmers to adopt digital solutions to farming as a business.
The Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Communications (MERC) theme continues to drive SAA’s evidence-based programs to better document the impacts of its investments, and to enhance the visibility of the organization. To ensure integration, coherence and quality across all levels, SAA’s Theory of Change (ToC) as well as the associated M&E framework was revised. In order to further support M&E activities with state-of-the-art technologies, SAA has made tremendous progress in deploying online data collection systems. Similarly, the development of a comprehensive database to enhance data collection, analysis, and visualization is underway.

During 2019, the MERC team worked on building the capacity of SAA staff and partners on M&E concepts and techniques. MERC led needs’ assessments and market surveys carried out in Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria and Uganda to inform program interventions in new sites. The unit coordinated baseline surveys to establish benchmarks, which help measure the impacts of SAA’s interventions. In addition, continued output and outcome monitoring of SAA interventions were carried out in all the program countries, and findings were shared to enhance decision making.

The validation process of SAA field level models helped assess the social acceptability, economic viability, relevance to farmers, effectiveness of its extension approach, and impact and sustainability of SAA extension models.

A retrospective study on the impact of SAA interventions from its inception up to December 2018 has been carried out across all countries, and findings were shared during the 2019 annual stakeholder planning workshops. A study on the use and impact of PICS bag technology was also conducted in Ethiopia. A total of 20,635 demonstrations and open the bag ceremonies were organized. 1,062,000 PICS bags produced and distributed through the supply chain actors since 2014. Currently three plastic factories are producing PICS bags and distributing through private supply chain actors. Results from the study showed that the quality of grain produce stored in PICS bags improved which led to increase in price thereby.

In a bid to demonstrate and publicize outcomes of SAA interventions, MERC Unit documented several success stories. MERC also conducted feedback meetings across key intervention areas, with the purpose of sharing key results and findings from the monitoring and impact surveys conducted during the year with farmers and other stakeholders.

In 2019, SAA’s Communications Unit conducted media field days across the focus countries. The programs were instrumental in addressing SAA’s missions, visions, and values to the global audience, as well as strengthening SAA’s partnership with key media institutions. The media field days also paved the way for new alliances.

The Communications Unit also participated in global events, such as the African Green Revolution Forum, and the 2nd All Africa Postharvest Congress and Exhibition. At these events, the Communications Unit seized the opportunity to showcase different publications it produces, including ‘Voices from the Field’ – an e-newsletter showcasing smallholder farmers’ SAA works with – as well as country and thematic factsheets.
In 2019, SG2000 Ethiopia intervened in five regions, 32 Woredas, 120 Kebeles and nine universities, through core and extra-core projects. Key achievements recorded include model validation, establishing Value Chain Centres (VCCs) and Climate Smart Villages (CSVs), building the capacity of farmers and EAs, and developing their links to markets. A high turnover rate among EAs, prolonged rainfall, high prices and lack of spare machine parts were among the challenges encountered. The focus areas included organizing training, demonstration, and field day events.

**Crop Productivity Enhancement (CPE)**

As part of the CPE theme, FLPs and CSVs were implemented. Pre-season training was provided to 770 EAs (558 male, 212 female), who in turn trained 67,233 farmers (51,269 male, 15,964 female). Additionally, 133 pregnant and lactating women received training on vegetable production. A total of 34,928 demonstrations (116 CVPs, 1,687 CDPs, 4,947 Baby Demos and 28,178 TAPs) were established. Field day events were organized for 72,202 participants (57,283 male, 14,919 female), and experience-sharing visits arranged for 48 beneficiaries (46 male, two female). Seasonal videos were screened to 30,629 trainees (30,073 farmers, 536 EAs and 20 officials) using Digi Soft Technology. Two CSVs were established and climate smart technologies demonstrated to 53 households.

**Postharvest Handling and Agro-processing (PHAP)**

The PHAP theme implemented Postharvest Technology Promotion (PHTP), PSP and Agro-processing Enterprise (APE) models. ToTs were organized for 556 EAs (405 male, 151 female), who went on to train 20,585 farmers (15,794 male, 4,791 female). Nutrition training was offered to 82 participants (15 male, 67 female); 2,708 farmers (2,105 male, 603 female) hosted PICS bag demonstrations. PHTP demonstrations were attended by 10,847 participants (8,159 male, 2,688 female). As a result, 125 farmers threshed their crops by renting machines from youth PSPs, resulting in the latter earning an income of USD 1,464. By storing grains in PICS bags, maize price increased from 20 USD/100 kg to 38 USD/100kg, and wheat from 27 USD/100kg to 53 USD/100kg. In 2020, PHAP plans to organize ToT for 838 EAs, train 34,840 farmers, establish 3,880 demonstrations, organize field day events for 11,352 people, and support 29 youth group members.

**Business Development (BD)**

The Business Development theme worked on CBSM, CA, CAT and CSIA models. A total of 161 beneficiaries (122 male, 39 female) were trained on CBSM, and field day events were attended by 1,008 participants (853 male, 155 female). Business training was offered to 32 PSPs and EAs, who in turn trained 163 (128 male, 35 female) Commodity Association (CA) committee members. Four PSPs recorded saving of USD 500; and five CAs with 1,531 members (1,147 male, 384 female) were established. Two market linkage workshops were organized for 113 (94 male, 19 female) market actors, and 21 MoUs were signed. Consequently, CAs/FOs marketed 2513 MT grain; CAs supplied 11,797 PICS bags; 11 CSIAs with 286 (155 F) members saved USD 2,337.

**Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Communications (MERC)**

In line with the MERC theme, needs assessment and market analysis were conducted for two VCCs and 11 new Woredas. Vulnerability assessments were also conducted at two CSVs. Two models (FLP and PSP) were evaluated and validated with the participation of 63 farmers and Key Informants (KIs) (43 male, 20 female) and 53 workshop attendees (50 male, three female). MERC-led joint activity monitoring was conducted in a total of 26 kebeles.

**Plan for 2020**

In 2020, CPE plans to train 1,089 EAs and 1,530 farmers, address 108,160 farmers through video mediated training, establish 3,604 demonstrations, and arrange field day events to 72,620 participants (1,560 EAs; 71,060 farmers).
The population of Mali is increasing at a rate of 0.5 million annually. At the same time, the number of people engaged in agriculture is decreasing. SAA perceives this as an opportunity for the commercialization of agricultural produces, to increase the income of farmers. For smallholder farmers to benefit from this opportunity, they must increase the productivity of their crops, which may prove challenging in a country like Mali, which has to cope with the negative effects of climate change, climate variability, and high levels of insecurity related to inter-community conflicts and terrorism.

In 2019, as part of efforts to address these challenges, SAA Mali introduced a five year Country Operational Plan 2019-2023. By the end of 2023, the plan should have contributed to improving food and nutrition security, and the livelihoods of smallholder farmers.

**Methodology**

A participatory needs assessment was conducted to identify technology gaps. Thirteen extension models were developed, introduced, adapted and implemented, while consolidating them along the agricultural value chain. Regular monitoring and evaluation assessed the impact and key outputs of single models, model combinations and consolidated models.

**Postharvest Handling and Agro-processing (PHAP)**

- One Agro-Processing Enterprise, equipped with a locally fabricated gas groundnut roaster and a milling machine, was established at the PHTC Siranikoto.
- The consolidation of the PHTC, CAT, FLP, and APE models at PHTC Siranikoto led to the establishment of a groundnut value chain center, which benefitted a women’s group of 259 members. The members, who have been trained on aflatoxin management, process groundnut into butter for commercialization.
- 28 EAs, field agents and seed producers were trained on postharvest handling, storage management and quality control of maize, millet, sorghum, rice, groundnut, and cowpea seeds.

**Human Resources Development**

- Two cohorts of SEP students graduated in 2014-2019, totaling 43 students; and three other cohorts are currently ongoing, totaling 46 students.
- Out of the 43 graduates, 23% had their SEPs funded by various donors and credit institutions.

**Business Development**

- The consolidation of CDP, CAT, and CF models helped 198 producers (129 male, 69 female), of PHTC Siranikoto to benefit from the private agro-processing company Baramouso; a loan of USD 10,668 for inputs.
- Through the CF, farmers were able to sell 54.78 tons of groundnut to Baramousso generating a total income of USD 16,086 with a gross profit of USD 5,525 (including USD 1,674 for the 69 women).
- 28 EAs, field agents and seed producers were trained on seed business management and credit access.

**Key achievements in 2019**

- In 2019, 9,988 producers (4,395 female and 5,593 male) were trained through CDPs during three training sessions on good agricultural techniques, plot maintenance, and harvesting techniques.
- 820 TAPs, led by 540 adopter men and 420 adopter women, were established. The adopters are producers who participated in the demonstrations, and applied at least 30% of the technologies promoted.
- The most popular technologies were new varieties, seed priming, and row planting.
- Increase in yield of CDPs reached 60.8% for groundnut, 85.2% for cowpea, 41.4% for rice, 110.5% for millet, 120% for sorghum, and 35% for maize (Fig 1).

**Plan for 2020**

As we move forward with the implementation of the Country Operation Plan (COP), we will continue consolidating models along the value chain to achieve the goal of positively impacting food and nutrition security, and ultimately the livelihood of smallholder farmers.

![Image](image-url)

**Fig 1: Crop productivity in Mali, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Average Yield [t/ha]</th>
<th>Percentage increase over Community Practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CDP</td>
<td>Community Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundnut</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>597</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cowpea</td>
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<td>Rice</td>
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<td>Millet</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>3,138</td>
<td>2,323</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Consolidation of SAA’s agricultural extension models along the value chain in 2019 has been instrumental in addressing the numerous farming challenges facing smallholder farmers. SAA continues with its interventions through collaborative partnerships with AGRA, ACAI and FMARD, and renewed its MoU with the latter. SAA renewed its MoU with the FMARD. The project trained 20 NYSCs and over 80 agricultural students from universities on industrial placements.

Focus areas
The success of value chain extension depends largely on teamwork and lucrative partnerships, which are a key focus area for us. Other areas of focus include exploring ways in which to encourage greater involvement by women, youth and PwDs in agriculture. One way this is achieved is by providing support and training in agribusiness. We also work to enhance linkages, to address poor produce pricing, as well as supporting State Coordinators and EAs to improve information sharing initiatives.

Activities and programmes operated
SAA continues to source new and proven crop production technologies, which minimize postharvest losses and ensure food security. New technologies are showcased through demonstration plots and training sessions. Community leaders are trained on leadership, good governance, collective marketing, community resource mobilization and accessing financial services. Improving the evidence-based findings of the effectiveness of SAA’s agricultural extension models was the centrepiece of MERC activities in 2019. The Communication Unit also raised the visibility and profile of SAA by identifying and amplifying the organisation’s achievements.

Challenges addressed
The challenge of high EA turnover rates was addressed through the involvement of CBFs, and further enhanced by youth participation in agribusiness. Farmers’ literacy on crop production and PHAP activities, including nutrition sensitive agriculture, were also strengthened.

Plans for the future
Continue trainings on GAP, women groups on local balanced diet, machine operators, mechanics, local fabricators, training of women groups on improved processing techniques, group leadership, dynamics and conflict management, gender workshop and supervision of field activities. Finalization of M&E framework, baseline survey, model validation, success stories, conferences and seminars.

Key achievements:
A total of 232,459 demonstrations were conducted through core and extra-core supports. Demonstration yields compared favorably to those from community plots [Fig. 1].

A total of 383,050 farmers were trained on GAP (286,352 male, 96,698 female and 75 PwDs). A total of 500 manuals were printed on GAPs, and a further 1,200 were distributed on PHAP. SAA organized 140 field days, which were attended by 7,704 farmers (5,470 male and 2,234 female).

854 smallholder farmers received training on balanced diets and drudgery reduction. Small-scale mechanization technologies such as irrigation equipment, planters/seeder, fertilizer applicator and sprayers were demonstrated. Three brown field days were attended by 358 farmers (299 male and 59 female). 26 grain collection centers were renovated in Kaduna and Niger states.

15 CATs (14 male, one female) and 105 EAs (83 male, 22 female) were trained on value chain extension, who in turn trained 403 FOs. A total of 20 MoUs were signed in 2019, which granted access to 469.456mt of inputs valued at USD 1,611,830.4. As a result, 355 FOs collectively marketed 1,827.44mt of grains worth USD 1,515,244. Monitoring the results of activities are crucial in documenting their impacts, and MERC staff provided reports highlighting the progress of interventions and training, in support of evidence-based reporting.

Plan for 2020
SAA’s strategic goals and objectives are in line with the nation’s agricultural goals and objectives. The new SP, through the consolidation of the extension models, will surely transform the Nigerian smallholder farmer, and advance the twin-track approach of encouraging commercial agribusiness and supporting the huge population of subsistence producers.

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![Fig 1: Yields in Kg/ha from various demonstration plots across commodities and Nigerian states in 2019](image-url)
This year’s activities were carried out in 43 Sub-counties in 20 Districts, under four projects: SAA core program funded by The Nippon Foundation; Maize Value chain funded by aBi; Vegetable Oil Development Project (VODP) funded by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF); Agriculture Market Support Program (AMS) funded by the WFP.

Achievements
In 2019, SG 2000 Uganda emerged as the best NGO exhibitor and the second best agro-processing technology exhibitor during the National Agricultural show, which took place in July. We were also awarded for our role in ensuring food security and increased household incomes. The awards were presented by the President of Uganda, during the Uganda Responsible Investment Award ceremony.

Crop Productivity Enhancement (CPE)
To increase farmers’ crop production, SG 2000 Uganda facilitated training on GAPs and climate resilient technologies, as well as establishing demonstrations among targeted farming communities. Additionally, 26 field days were held, attracting a total of 2,333 participants. Community seed production generated 83.5MT of soybean seed Maksoy 3N worth USD 68,219.17. Data show CDPs significantly outperformed Community Practice Plots.

Postharvest Handling and Agro-processing (PHAP)
SG 2000 Uganda provided several training on PHAP, entrepreneurship, nutrition, storage management and grain quality standards which were attended by 6,476 participants (2,717 male; 3,759 female). Twenty five field technology demonstrations (including national exhibitions and field days) were carried out (18 field days and seven national agricultural exhibitions) attracting 32,086 individuals. Thereafter 3,657 PICS bags and 193 PHAP machines were purchased by farmers as a result of linkages to technology suppliers/fabricators.

Business Development
Through partnerships with information providers like Infotrade, farmers received timely information on market rates and the weather, which proved crucial in planning for increased production among farming communities, and in negotiating better prices for their harvest. Over 20 committee members in CSVs received information that they shared with fellow farmers. A total of 2,090 farmers (934 male, 1,156 female) were trained on agricultural financing, business plan development, market mapping, group dynamics, marketing and Community Savings for Investment in Agribusiness (CSIA). This resulted in the formation of 847 saving groups, comprising 19,945 members (8,937 male and 11,008 female), and generated savings of USD 109,847.94.

Farmers from seven One Stop Centre Associations (OSCA’s) sold 66.5 MT of maize grain worth USD 18,107, 140MT of milled rice worth USD 114,800 and 623.67 MT of soybean at USD 511,409.4.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Communications (MERC)
MERC continues to conduct needs assessments and output and outcome monitoring, as well as validating agribusiness extension models. Outcome of the training received by farmers indicated that eight in every 10 farmers applied at least three of the promoted technologies, including line planting, drying on tarpaulins and the use of improved seed varieties. Validation of the PSP agribusiness extension model conducted, revealed that the presence of postharvest handling service providers increased farmers’ access to services and significantly reduced the cost of postharvest handling.

Challenges
A key challenge in 2019 was prolonged rainfall which led to flooding of crop fields, resulting in the rotting of root tubers and increased fungal infections – this especially effected pulses (beans).

Plan for 2020
SG 2000 Uganda will continue to focus on promoting and integrating the agribusiness extension models, while emphasizing CSTs and CSIA. We will also promote crop insurance, and strengthen the relationship between farmers and the market. The program will continue to champion cluster production, hermetic storage and bulk marketing as ways of enhancing food security, nutrition and the income of smallholder farmers.
Tokyo International Conference of African Development VII (TICAD VII) report

TICAD VII Official Side Event: “Sasakawa in Africa – Building on the past, looking to the future: Africa’s youth and entrepreneurship in agriculture”

On 28 August, 2019 in Yokohama, Japan, SAA organized an official Side Event at the seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VII). The Side Event – a symposium – brought together government officials, agricultural experts, entrepreneurs and young farmers from both Africa and Japan for a series of engaging discussions focusing on youth unemployment in African countries. It also explored ways in which Africa and Japan can continue working together to improve agricultural opportunities available to young people.

Our keynote speaker Dr Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, commended Africa’s potential to become a “global powerhouse in food and agriculture”. Promising to strengthen partnerships and business collaborations with SAA, Dr Adesina commented: “I believe in the young people. They are not the future of Africa. They are the present of Africa.”

Also speaking at the event, our special guest speaker Dr Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), highlighted the undesirable role climate change plays in ensuring food security. Dr Ishii identified areas of common interest between SAA and GEF, with a particular focus on the value chain and Climate-Smart Technologies (CSTs).

Honoring the symposium, the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe paid special tribute to SAA’s “30 long years of continued devotion and engagement” in supporting smallholder farmers in Africa. The Prime Minister commended the role that Japanese technology can play in innovation, as part of efforts to develop agricultural practices and develop human resources. It was also committed that the Japanese government, together with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), would assist in doubling rice production in Africa by 2030.

During TICAD VII, Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Hon Professor Oniang’o, along with several SAA directors held a series of meetings with heads of states pertaining to SAA’s countries of operation. These included President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, President Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta of Mali, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed of Ethiopia, President Nana Akufo-Addo of Ghana, President Julius Maada Bio of Sierra Leone, and President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré of Burkina Faso. Additional high-level meetings were also held with Ministers from Malawi and Mozambique. Delegates praised SAA for its positive influence on agricultural development throughout Africa, and discussed ongoing operations, as well as future opportunities for collaboration. The SAFE program was also recognized for its remarkable impact on agricultural extension curricula in the countries where it operates.
In 2019, SAA was represented in a series of high profile global agricultural forums and events. Among these were the African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) and the 2nd All Africa Postharvest Congress and Exhibition (AAPHCE), which took place in Accra, Ghana, and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, respectively. In addition to maintaining the visibility of SAA, the events were pivotal in strengthening partnerships with key actors and in creating new alliances with potential donors. Exhibition booths set up at the venue of both events were manned by SAA staff, and showcased SAA’s contribution to agricultural development in Africa through its value chain extension approach. Various publications and exhibits – such as models of postharvest machines, storage facilities, seeds and fertilizers which are promoted by SAA across its focus countries – were also on display.

AGRF attracted heads of states, the diplomatic community, peer organizations engaged in agricultural development, donor agencies, investors and prominent media institutions. SAA’s booth, in addition to being a point of display, was also a platform to hold deliberations with key partners and other stakeholders, and indeed, high-level discussions were held between SAA management and delegations led by the Ministers of Agriculture from Somalia and Benin, in addition to Management and Scientific staff from International Agriculture Research Centers and other NGOs. The booth also featured a farmer engaged in cassava processing and a young fabricator who manufactures postharvest machines. SAA staff also participated as panelists in other symposiums.

SAA also participated in the 2nd All Africa Postharvest Congress and Exhibition hosted at the African Union Commission (AUC) headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In addition to co-sponsoring the event, SAA set up an exhibition booth and held a symposium titled 'Accelerating the Adoption of Improved Postharvest & Agro-processing Practices in Africa', which presented its pioneering work in improving postharvest management. The symposium featured prominent names in agricultural extension including SAA Chair Hon Professor Ruth Oniang'o, a globally renowned expert in food security and nutrition and winner of the 2017 African Food Prize; H.E. Dr Eyasu Abraha, former State Minister and Adviser to the Minister of Agriculture of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; Dr Karima Babangida, Director of Agricultural Extension of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Dr Dieudonné Baributsa, Associate Professor of Entomology/Team Manager, PICS Project Purdue University, Indiana, USA. The panellists held an all-rounded discussion with participants who were delegated from research institutions, universities, and organizations engaged in agricultural extension. Our exhibition booth boasted a significant number of visitors, with a PSP and a women group leader sharing their testimony on the impact of SAA’s work in improving their lives and livelihoods.

Coverage of both events was prominent, with both being covered by print and electronic media outlets, as well as featuring on prime time Television news in Ghana and Ethiopia. SAA’s social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) were instantly updated – this has helped SAA’s visibility across the globe.
Personal testimonies and experiences working with SAA

Ethiopia

Tige Gelaw is from the Awabel woreda of the Amhara region in Ethiopia, bordered on the south by the famous Abay River, known as the Blue Nile. Tige is a member of Alen Tesfa, which translates to We have hope, a women's agro-processing cooperative group set up by SAA in 2010.

“...SG 2000 came to our kebele” Tige recalls. “The first training we received was in home economics. [They] then provided us with peppers, chickpeas and Teff flour milling machines, which relieved us of the double burden of having to walk long distances carrying heavy weights.... ‘Thank you’ is not enough. From training to material provision, we are truly grateful and enormously indebted to SAA’s intervention.”

Nigeria

Abdullahi Kau, a smallholder farmer and maize grower, lives in the Tudun Wada Local Government Area of Kano State, Nigeria. He is very happy with how SG 2000 Nigeria trained him, which has resulted in him being happy to conduct agriculture as a business. Abdullahi owns a one hectare farm which he uses to demonstrate his MAP, as well as for commercial purposes.

“SG 2000 Nigeria has greatly impacted my farming practice. I am now able to better support my family from the increased income I’ve gained. SAA has helped me significantly improve my farming business.”

Mali

Fatoumata Sangaré is the Finance Secretary of a women’s group situated in the rural commune of Niéna, in the Sikasso region of Mali. The platform was formed in 2014 and currently comprises 11 villages and 556 members. The main activities of the Platform are upland and lowland rice production, parboiling, storage and marketing of rice.

“...good governance and transparency has become the hallmark of our platform, which we owe to SAA’s training and guidance. We are very thankful for all the progress that has been made and for the work that continues to be done.”

Uganda

The Zirobwe Agaliawamu Agri-business Training Association (ZAAFTA) is a dynamic and award-winning youth agri-business association situated in the Luwero district of central Uganda. The Nokia Youth Farming Agricultural Innovation Platform (NOFAIP) is a member of the ZAAFTA association, and comprises over 300 young people, 123 of whom are women. Established in 2004, NOFAIP provides a range of services, including planting, threshing, shelling, as well as market support and water crop management.

“We promote agriculture as a choice of employment to the youth. When recruiting, we look for those who have the spirit of teamwork, commitment, and innovation. We want to train individuals who can earn from any kind of activities based on the resources, and the demand, around them.”

Kamoan Daniel (Left) and Kiyingi John working in the green house, Luwero district, Uganda
Dr Dorothy Anima Effa, an Extension Officer from Ghana, is also a SAFE graduate who now supervises the doctorate program. Dorothy was among the first intake of SAFE students admitted to the University of Cape Coast, after the program launched in Ghana in 1993.

“I did not envision achieving so much, academically, even now as a PhD holder” Dorothy reflects, “this wouldn’t have been possible without the initial catalyst – the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Extension from the Sasakawa Africa Fund for Extension Education (SAFE) program. I’m really grateful.”

In 2019, SAA introduced a new internal awards system to recognize the valued contributions of its staff and management, as well as excellent photo submissions. The award has two categories: Director/Manager and Staff.

### SAA Award Manager Category

**1st prize**

**Mr Antoine Aoga**  
Regional Program Officer  
Mali  
Antoine enhanced nutrition concepts by developing two training manuals in English and French, and sensitizing farmers and EAs on the importance of consuming local balanced foods. He also carried out nutrition assessments of rural households and created partnerships with institutions (mainly health workers) on nutritional activities. Antoine has pioneered SAA’s nutrition extension services.

**2nd prize**  
**Ms Asnakech Sisay**  
Regional Finance Manager, Regional Office

### SAA Award Staff Category

**1st prize**

**Mr Abel Hailu**  
Communications Officer  
Regional Office  
Abel developed new publications, including SAA country and thematic fact sheets and ‘Voices from the field: Special Editions’. He has also helped promote SAA programs and achievements in international events, including AGRF, AAPHCE, and media field days. Abel’s efforts to increase the quality of photographs, in collaboration with colleagues in focus countries, has helped strengthen SAA’s social network platforms, which has increased visibility worldwide.

**2nd prize**  
**Dr Nouhoum Sangare**  
Theme Coordinator-BD, Mali

**3rd prize**  
**Mr Getachew Minass**  
Theme Coordinator-MERC, Ethiopia

**4th prize**

**Mr Fred Lukandwa**  
Program Officer-PHAP, Uganda

### Individual Category of SAA Photo Contest 2019

**1st prize**  
**Mr Adams Ephraim Onuche**  
Program Officer, Nigeria

**2nd prize**  
**Mr Christopher Kugonza**  
Driver, Uganda

**3rd prize**  
**Mr Oumer Taha**  
Senior Program Officer, Ethiopia

**4th prize**  
**Engr Leonides Halos-Kim**  
Theme Director-PHAP, Regional Office

**Mr Oumar Traore**  
Program Officer, Mali
## Partnerships and extra-core projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project name</th>
<th>Partner/donor</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Amount (USD)</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ethiopia</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NuME</td>
<td>Global Affairs Canada through CIMMYT</td>
<td>Mar 2012- Mar 2017 (extended to Mar 2019)</td>
<td>2,600,000</td>
<td>To improve household income and nutritional security through the adoption of quality protein maize, and appropriate crop management practices.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving Market-led Production of selected Agricultural Commodities in Targeted Woredas of Tigray (IMPACT-Tigray)</td>
<td>AGRA</td>
<td>Aug 2018- Oct 2021</td>
<td>3,292,133</td>
<td>To enhance productivity, and strengthen access to output markets of maize, wheat and teff in 20 woredas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mali</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Developing economically viable foundation seed models for vital food security in Mali</td>
<td>NWO</td>
<td>2017-2020</td>
<td>347,065</td>
<td>Through co-creation with national and international partners, and focusing on staple crops, we will test three foundation seed models for efficacy, effectiveness, and sustainability. The models which perform best will be promoted, and actors’ capacities strengthened in foundation seed production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nigeria</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Promoting Agricultural Productivity on Crops and Livestock | Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) | Jan-Dec 2019 | 234,661 | • Improving agricultural productivity and production, as well as food security and nutrition  
• Reducing post-harvest losses  
• Building the capacity of, and supporting public and private extension staff  
• Fostering opportunities for youth, women and vulnerable groups for employment  
• Fostering public-private partnerships |
| African Cassava Agronomy Initiatives (ACAI) Project | IITA | Apr-Dec 2019 | 45,407 | • To establish second season (2019) Validation trials on Decision Support Tools (DSTs) on Best Cassava-Maize intercrop compared side by side with farmers’ practice.  
• To set up demonstration plots with farmers’ groups ON DSTs on Best Cassava-Maize intercrop approach in the on-going Dissemination Exercise.  
• To create awareness of ACAI Inter-Crop DST through farmer field days. |
| Increasing Rice Productivity to Improve Income and Food Security of Farmers in Niger State, North-Central Nigeria | AGRA | Apr 2018- Mar 2021 | 751,320 | • Increased rice productivity for smallholder farmers in Niger state  
• Strengthen and expand access to output markets  
• Increase the capacity of smallholders farming households and agricultural system to better prepare for and adapt to shocks and stresses |
| Uplifting smallholder farmers’ livelihood in Kaduna State of Nigeria through market driven upscaling of the maize, rice and soybean value chains | AGRA | Apr 2018- Mar 2021 | 1,160,741 | • Increased staple crops productivity for smallholder farmers (maize, rice, and soybean)  
• Strengthen and expand SHFs’ access to output market  
• Increase the capacity of smallholders farming households and agricultural system to better prepare for and adapt to shocks and stresses |
| **Uganda**   |               |          |              |                 |
| Growth for Uganda Project | K+S Kali GmbH of Germany | 2013 - 2019 | 865,409 | Improving food and income security of SHFs with focus on maize and soybeans |
| Improving access to markets through producer organizations | aBi | 2018 - 2019 | 242,732 | Promote production of maize value chain and empower SHFs to increase savings and foster gender equality at household level |
| VODP         | IFAD and MAAIF | 2016 - 2019 | 379,050 | Promoting oil seed production with focus on sunflower and soybean and improving income of SHFs |
| Agriculture Market Support Program (AMS) | WFP | 2018 - 2019 | 300,268 | Reducing postharvest losses and linking farmers to markets |
| Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) | Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) | 2019 | 12,400 | The project aims at promoting rice production in Uganda through JOCVs |
## Ethiopia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Publication</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Language</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beginning to leap out from scarcity to food security</strong></td>
<td>CPE &amp; MERC</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>From bankruptcy to a lucrative business through machinery service provision</strong></td>
<td>PHAP &amp; MERC</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hats off to SG2000 Ethiopia for changing my life to the better</strong></td>
<td>CPE &amp; MERC</td>
<td>English</td>
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## Mali

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<tr>
<td><strong>Malian National Director of Agriculture ‘Very Satisfied’ with SAA Interventions, Voices from the Field, Sasakawa Africa Association</strong></td>
<td>CPE &amp; BD</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>This is a new type of market that we did not know before SG 2000, Voices from the Field, Sasakawa Africa Association</strong></td>
<td>CPE &amp; BD</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>This foundation seed project has been an opportunity to improve our living conditions - The Foloda Women’s Group, Voices from the Field, Sasakawa Africa Association</strong></td>
<td>CPE &amp; BD</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Uganda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Publication</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Role of Private Service Providers (PSPs) in improving post-harvest handling of crops among smallholder farmers in Uganda</strong></td>
<td>PHAP</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>“Why don’t you join Sasakawa?” The story of Nyarakot Group, Voices from the Field, Sasakawa Africa Association</strong></td>
<td>MERC</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Impact assessment of agro-processors supported by SG2000 Uganda</strong></td>
<td>PHAP</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aberash Hirphoye with several other smallholder farmers pose in a CDP at Bule Hora Woreda, in Ethiopia
A number of publications and reports are available from SAA.

To access the full range of our publications, newsletters and videos, please visit www.saa-safe.org
## Financial report

### Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAA</th>
<th>2018 (USD)</th>
<th>2019 (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Ordinary Income</td>
<td>10,678,785</td>
<td>10,335,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Ordinary Expense</td>
<td>9,748,670</td>
<td>11,597,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>4,151,085</td>
<td>3,165,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash balance at the end of the year</td>
<td>4,398,153</td>
<td>8,421,681</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Details of Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAA</th>
<th>2018 (USD)</th>
<th>2019 (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NF Grant</td>
<td>7,640,721</td>
<td>7,234,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRA (Ethiopia)</td>
<td>402,522</td>
<td>1,014,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARF (Mali)</td>
<td>86,334</td>
<td>93,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMARD (Nigeria)</td>
<td>13,772</td>
<td>236,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRA (Nigeria)</td>
<td>788,930</td>
<td>492,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VODP (Uganda)</td>
<td>176,409</td>
<td>132,218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFP (Uganda)</td>
<td>76,111</td>
<td>195,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grants</td>
<td>667,980</td>
<td>504,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>405,805</td>
<td>504,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution Received</td>
<td>420,198</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Details of Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAA</th>
<th>2018 (USD)</th>
<th>2019 (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NF Core Project</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Expenses</td>
<td>5,428,234</td>
<td>5,630,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Expenses</td>
<td>2,999,256</td>
<td>2,959,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Core Projects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRA (Ethiopia)</td>
<td>22,748</td>
<td>1,002,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARF (Mali)</td>
<td>89,043</td>
<td>85,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMARD (Nigeria)</td>
<td>5,031</td>
<td>164,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRA (Nigeria)</td>
<td>219,890</td>
<td>724,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VODP (Uganda)</td>
<td>148,881</td>
<td>78,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFP (Uganda)</td>
<td>65,884</td>
<td>233,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (Ethiopia/Uganda/Nigeria)</td>
<td>769,702</td>
<td>358,401</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes:

1. Figures of each item provided in 2019 are based on the English translation of the Financial Report of Sasakawa Africa Association (The 5th Term) audited and reviewed by PricewaterhouseCoopers Aarata LLC on March 16, 2020, and prepared on an accrual basis as per the Japanese accounting standard for public incorporated foundations.

2. The budget and expenses of Sasakawa Agricultural Funds for Extension Education (SAFE) are included into the above figures from 2018 onwards in line with SAFE’s integration into SAA as of January 1, 2018.

## Personnel

### SAA Founders

- Ryoichi Sasakawa (The Nippon Foundation Founder)
- Norman E. Borlaug (Nobel Peace Prize Laureate)
- Jimmy Carter (Former US President)

### SAA Board of Councillors

- Takeju Ogata
- Shuichi Ohno
- Katsumi Hirano

### SAA Board of Directors

- Ruth K Oniang’o, Chair
- Amit Roy, Vice-chair
- Makoto Kitanaka, President (as of November 2019)
- Fumiko Iseki, Executive Director
- Katsuhiro Osako, Director

### SAA Auditor

- Akinori Sugai

### SAA Principal Staff

#### Management
- Mel Oluoch, Regional Director
- Deola Naibakelao, Deputy Regional Director

#### Senior Staff (Regional Office)
- Bidjokazo Fofana, Thematic Director, Crop Productivity Enhancement
- Leonides Halos-Kim, Thematic Director, Postharvest Handling and Agro-Processing
- Kebba Ngumbo Sima, Thematic Director, Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Sharing (until October 2019)

#### Senior Staff (Country Offices)
- Fentahun Mengistu, Ethiopia Country Director
- Sokona Dagnoko, Mali Country Director
- Sani Miko, Nigeria Country Director
- Roselline Nyamutale, Uganda Country Director

### SAFE Staff

- Mercy Akeredolu, SAFE Technical Director
- Assa Kanté, SAFE Regional Coordinator
- Oladele Idowo, SAFE Regional Coordinator

(As of December 2019)