



# THE KILIMOMART APPLICATION IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SDGS IN THE REGION.

## BACKGROUND

Agriculture is the backbone of most East Africa Community (EAC) Member States economies and plays a crucial role in industrial development and trade. Agriculture accounts for more than 32 per cent of the region's gross domestic product employ about 80 per cent of its labour force.

KilimoMart Application is an online market platform developed by ESAFF Uganda in partnership with KESSFF and with financial support IIDEA- GIZ project to provide a market for agriculture products for small-scale farmers in the EAC region. The KilimoMart Application has continued to promote small-scale farmers' access to market opportunities and access to information. The KilimoMart Application has also continued to create interaction between small-scale farmers and other stakeholders, especially for Kenya and Uganda. KilimoMart Application has also built the knowledge of small-scale farmers to access and use Information Communication Technology (ICT) to access market opportunities in the EAC region. The achievements of the KilimoMart Application in the region have contributed to achieving some of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are a collection of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a blueprint for achieving a better and more sustainable future for all. The KilimoMart Application strives to ensure that small-scale farmers achieve the different areas of the SDGs.



## THE KILIMOMART APPLICATION IS CONTRIBUTING TO ACHIEVING THE FOLLOWING SDGS;



### No Poverty

Extreme poverty, especially in rural areas, hinders economic development and access to quality services. By creating agriculture markets for small-scale farmers to reach consumers of organic products in the EAC region, the KilimoMart Application has contributed to increasing the earnings of small-scale farmers. KilimoMart Application has also improved the livelihood of small-scale farmers in that they are in a position to take care of their essential needs like food, clothes, education and medical expenses.

### Zero Hunger

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates that 20 million of the over 160 million people in the region are food insecure. KilimoMart contributes to ending hunger in the community by supplying consumers with healthy agricultural products. By the fact that small-scale farmers' accessing markets in the EAC region, they have been motivated to produce more food and have the opportunity to feed the region and, in the end, the EAC region will have enough food, and there will be no hunger in the region.

### Good Health and Wellbeing

The increasing global health security threats of epidemics, pandemics and antimicrobial resistance threaten the integrity of the region's health systems, travel, trade and overall wellbeing of citizens in the EAC. KilimoMart Application deals in healthy organic products hence small-scale farmers who sell agricultural products to consumers in the region contribute to the improved health and nutrition of the consumers hence addressing critical issues like malnutrition. Organic products build body immunity to resist and fight diseases. In doing this, the health of consumers is guaranteed.





## Gender Equality

Despite constituting over 60 per cent of the EAC population, women are still marginalised in the decision-making processes and have limited access to education, finance, information, and communication technologies compared to their male counterparts. The KilimoMart Application was specifically developed to target women; the Application improves access to information, markets, and technology. This is empowering women small-scale farmers in the region hence promoting gender equality.



## Decent Work and Economic Growth

The EAC grew by 5.9% in 2017, well above the global and Sub-Saharan (3.6%) averages. The EAC has a combined Gross Domestic Product of US\$ 193 billion (EAC Statistics for 2019). KilimoMart Application is progressively contributing to the region's economic growth since the Application promotes trade in agriculture products and services, which are the pillars in the region. Through this trade, the KilimoMart Application, directly and indirectly, contributes to tax payment in the region. The KilimoMart Application also provides respectable work for small-scale farmers in the region.

## Increase Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

The EAC region remains drastically under industrialised, poor transport infrastructure and consequently high transport costs, low human capital stock and protectionist policies in some countries. KilimoMart Application contributes to increased infrastructure and innovation. The Application simplifies trade for small-

scale farmers and at the same time provides convenience to consumers. The KilimoMart Application has also contributed to developing agriculture infrastructure like food stores in the region.

## Reduce Inequality

Reducing inequalities and ensuring no one is left behind are integral to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Inequality of opportunity and outcomes is one of the significant pressing social challenges and growing risks to the EAC region and its stability. Evidence shows high inequalities in the EAC region regarding education, health, security, and others. The KilimoMart Application has taken drastic actions to reduce inequality by creating opportunities for the rural poor to engage in economic activities in the region. The KilimoMart Application reduces income inequality within small scale farmers by distributing success among marginalised small-scale farmers.



## CONCLUSION

The Sustainable Development Goals are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and improve the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere. All UN Member States adopted the 17 Goals in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which set out a 15-year plan to achieve the Goals. KilimoMart Application is progressively contributing to the attainment of the SDGs through increasing participation of small-scale farmers in community development, trade and technology for better incomes and sustainable livelihood. The KilimoMart Application empowers small-scale farmers and provides a platform for engagement in developing the EAC region.





#### **Brief about ESAFF Uganda**

Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) Uganda is the largest small-scale farmer-led advocacy movement in Uganda formed in 2002 to facilitate processes through which small scale farmers' development concerns can be solicited, articulated and ultimately addressed through policies and programs. ESAFF Uganda currently has a membership in 54 districts. ESAFF Uganda is also part of a bigger network of small-scale farmers in the other 15 countries in Eastern and Southern Africa.

Learn more about the KilimoMart Application: [www.kilimomart.com](http://www.kilimomart.com)

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Twitter: @KilimoMart

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