Lifeworks Global solutions for a better world

Regenerative, climate-smart agriculture for a changing world

The global crisis

Alarmed by the crises in soil fertility and food security in regions across the world

The local solution

There is something we can do about it – one farmer, one field, one community at a time

Soils and yields

The soil fertility crisis is reducing crop yields

Billions of people are hungry or malnourished

Climate change is making things worse









X Lifeworks: our low-cost solution

The Lifeworks approach can:

Increase soil fertility and structure

are

Increase soil carbon-absorption capacity

pacity

Improve plant and livestock health



Help crops fight pathogens and pests



Increase crop yield and transform lives





X Lifeworks: who we are

We are a charity registered in the UK working mainly in sub-Saharan Africa.

Our goal:

To spread low-cost regenerative agricultural techniques through farming communities in Africa

Our approach:

We train trainers in each country and support them to cascade learning as widely as possible



X Lifeworks: what we do

Our approach:

We train trainers who then train farmers They learn how to make microbial inputs from local ingredients We create WhatsApp support groups for on-going advice We fund some of the farmers trained to travel and train others

Our training is free of charge to participants



X Lifeworks: who we train

In each country, we train 'trainers' from national and international agencies. They typically are:

Government agronomists

Farmers union leaders

Community extension workers for farming communities



NGO programme officers working on agricultural projects





X Lifeworks: our cascade model

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We train and support so the learning cascades outwards:



X Lifeworks: a typical training

A typical 4-day training covers:

	Part 1 (2 days)	Basic knowledge of how microbes work to create soil fertility. Learning how to produce and apply 4 organic microbial fertilisers.
V15	Part 2 (1 day)	How these inputs are best used with a particular crop, such as maize or beans.
	Part 3 (1 day)	'Agribusiness' skills, covering the basic skills that farmers need to help them run their farms as a successful business.



X Lifeworks: our microbial technology

Our training teaches farmers to make and apply four fermented, microbial inputs:

Lactobacillus "milk" serum **2** Fish hydrolysate "fish" serum

3 Livestock dung-urine "cow" serum

18-day compost Berkeley hot compost method





X Lifeworks: impact of microbials

When applied to soil, seeds and growing plants, our microbials inputs have the power to:





Increase seed germination rates and crop yields Improve plant and livestock health



Improve resistance to pathogens and pests

Improve soil fertility and carbon carrying capacity Reduce farmers' spend on commercial inputs Help farmers move from subsistence to surplus for sale



X Lifeworks: research evidence

There's a growing body of research evidence showing impact of Lifeworks' approach:

Small-scale trials completed in

countries by agronomists and experts trained by Lifeworks large-scale trials began in 2021 in Kenya, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi. trials planned for 2022 to test impact on: soil fertility, soil carbon-sequestration capacity; priority crop yield.



X Lifeworks: the trainer's view

George Mwima, Kakamega province, Western Kenya

University lecturer and project manager, working in community development on agriculture and food security programmes.

Trained by Lifeworks in 2019 and he has gone on to train farmers in a Soil Rehabilitation and Fertility Management network which has 10,000 members. I did careful field trials on my own farm and got very good results - I concluded this was an approach that can help our farmers. Food security is a big issue around here.

Thanks to Lifeworks, I have learnt that microbes can build a better soil and pull many people out of poverty.

Micro-organisms are what bring about all this magic."



X Lifeworks: George's results

The farmers who have learnt these skills are excited and they feel part of the growing movement for regenerative agriculture.

These approaches don't need technical knowledge, just knowledge of a simple fermentation process that anyone can do.

Farmers are looking for alternatives. There are so many counterfeit fertilisers on sale in this country, you can never tell if they are real or not. Soil microorganisms are available to all and are a single bullet that can help all farmers."

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Maize 146% higher yield using microbials vs synthetic fertilisers



higher yield using microbials vs synthetic fertilisers



Using microbials Kale leaf av. 5.7g



No inputs Kale leaf av. 2.6g



Using microbials Maize av. 447g



DAP fertiliser Maize av. 197g



X Lifeworks: the farmer's view

Clementine Murekatete, Eastern Rwanda



her maize harvest was getting smaller every year. She ran out of money for fertiliser and her yields dropped even further.

Since she was trained by Lifeworks in 2020, her life has been transformed by having surplus crop to sell. Supported by Lifework, Clementine has trained more than 500 other farmers.



I was on the list of parents who could not afford school fees, but now I can. We saved money and bought a small piece of land. I now grow vegetables and keep chickens as well as growing maize. Life used to be very hard for us but now it is much better."



X Lifeworks: the farmer's view # 2

Patrick Tuyishimire, Eastern Rwanda

- Patrick lost both his parents in the country's genocide and was brought up by his uncle.
- He attended a Lifeworks training in January 2020 and has never looked back.
- Patrick first bought a pig with the profits from his surplus crops, then he built a house.

All the microbial inputs I learned how to make has turned my farm into a business. The beans and potatoes grew so perfect and so fast that people wanted to know my secret!"



X Lifeworks: our track record

We are looking for new partnerships as we scale-up in 10 countries in sub-Saharan Africa



Since 2018, we have trained trainers in 10 countries, most of them in sub-Saharan Africa We have trained more than 600 trainers, who have trained more than 60,000 farmers

trainers

Our main partners are: World Bank, TAAT, PABRA, Peasant Farmers Assoc. of Ghana

farmers



X Lifeworks: now and the future

Our goal is to spread low-cost regenerative agricultural techniques to small-scale farmers

* We are a small charity operating from our own funds

We are scaling up organically and we are appointing country coordinators in 10 countries

* We aim to continue offering free training to participants for as long as we can

We are looking for partnerships with governments, international agencies, agricultural development projects and programmes



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For more information

www.lifeworks.global

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