



# ALPHA SEEDS

Grow to feed

The philanthropic investment company working for an ethical, regenerative, and profitable agribusiness sector in Africa.

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## **A revolutionary investment vehicle**

AlphaSeeds is a philanthropic investment company founded in 2022 in Switzerland. We adopt a non-conventional approach to supporting early-stage agribusinesses in some of the poorest countries in Africa. Our unique hybrid model combines the power of philanthropy and sound financial investments.

## **The most adapted support**

AlphaSeeds acts as a seed equity partner investing tax deductible donations into promising agribusiness companies launched by visionary and experienced entrepreneurs. We reinvest any profits made into our portfolio companies. This allows for a virtuous investment philosophy combining long-term, patient, non-extractive shareholder engagement with the rigor of financial discipline. Our unique model allows us to focus on neglected regions of sub-Saharan Africa, bringing clear additionality to other players active in this market segment.

## **An ambitious goal**

We want to build and grow profitable, inclusive, climate resilient local processing agribusiness companies sourcing from a large number of smallholder farmers whom we consider as key partners, using technological innovation whenever it is appropriate (smart irrigation, improved seeds, post-harvest waste reduction, clean energy power, etc.). We want to create success models that will be replicated and scaled.

## **A real hands-on approach – a team of experts**

Our team is composed of agribusiness experts with long operating and investing experience in emerging markets. We therefore do not shy away from taking majority stakes. We always engage actively at Board and Management levels in order to efficiently transfer know-how and grow best-in-class agro-processing companies. We provide ongoing support to our local partners.

## **A rigorous selection process**

AlphaSeeds follows a very rigorous company selection process. We only work with entrepreneurs who have launched processing agribusinesses with promising growth and profitability prospects, strong linkages with local supply chains of small holder farmers, and high potential demand from domestic or export markets. The entrepreneurs we team up with must share our vision of inclusive and equitable growth.

## Clear deliverables monitored

AlphaSeeds evaluates impact through a four-pillar value creation framework: human, social, environmental, and financial. This holistic approach ensures a comprehensive assessment of a business's impact on stakeholders and the world.

We pragmatically measure and report our impact: the profitability and growth of our portfolio companies, the number of jobs we create and the level of remuneration we offer (including gender balance), the volume we source from our supply chains, the number of small holder suppliers involved and the price we pay them, our contributions to an improved environmental footprint for our companies and their value chains.

## Active investments

We currently have one active investment in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The company RougeCongo tackles the bad reputation of palm oil due to harmful industrial practices by proposing local production that is both environmentally friendly and socially responsible. Palm oil is widely used in the DRC where the oil palm originates. RougeCongo is positioned as a response to the challenges of demographic growth, food security, preserving biodiversity, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

We also finalized two full due diligence for one company in Madagascar and one in South Africa.

## A vibrant pipeline

Given our approach, potential targets for investments abound (please see additional information on our existing portfolio and pipeline). We are not in a hurry. Our structure allows us to carefully select and craft our engagements. Our investments range from \$250K to \$ 2,000,000 and will generally be staggered over time, with clear interim trigger points. We envision a portfolio of 15 to 20 companies built over a 5-year horizon.

## Your support

We need additional donations in order to continue and expand our work. We are solid in our governance; we are transparent on our finances and our investment portfolio; we track our impact, and we report regularly. We are also keen to engage with donors willing to contribute more than money.

For more information, please contact Luc-Etienne Dandrieu, our Business Development Manager, at [luc-etienne.dandrieu@alphaseeds.ch](mailto:luc-etienne.dandrieu@alphaseeds.ch)