



### RURAL TRANSFORMATION

Empowering the nation one community at a time.....

Dear Supporters,

We welcome you to this edition of our quarterly newsletter as we continue to empower, transform and nourish the nation one community at a time, advocating organic and climate-smart farming while building a nation of prosperous small-scale farmers. Below are some of our activities in the last three months:

- Over 500,000 seedlings disbursed to small-scale farmers across different communities.
- Our farmers rewarded for producing and selling 100% quality and traceable Cocoa beans to the Co-operative
- Springboard made Top 15 at the 2024 Land Accelerator program
- Springboard participated in the 2024 Africa Food System Forum in Rwanda
- Jobs creation/Value Addition
- Planetary Transformation Project

## Springboard farmers get rewards for producing and selling 100% quality Cocoa beans to the Co-operative.

At Springboard, we prioritize ensuring that our small-scale farmers receive fair value for their produce by providing access to fair-trade markets. In addition to maximizing profits from their sales, these farmers also receive Premium—a reward for producing high-quality, organic cocoa beans. *“This premium helps boost our financial capability to support our family’s needs during offseason”* the farmers said. This is a testament to our commitment to improving the livelihoods of rural farmers and their households.



## Distributing Cocoa and Forest Tree Seedlings

With the 2024 planting season underway, we have distributed over 500,000 seedlings of various tree species to support our small-scale farmers in our rural communities. This initiative boosts farmers’ productivity and livelihoods while simultaneously promoting eco-friendly farming practices. Such actions will enhance the capacity of rural farmers and contribute to economic growth.





## Phase 1: Springboard made Top 15 at the 2024 Land Accelerator (LA) Program

We are excited to announce that Springboard has successfully met all criteria and secured a spot in the Top 15 out of 100 participants in the recently concluded 2024 Land Accelerator program. This 12-week program focused on climate-smart farming, adaptive leadership, and positive social impact, with insights from industry experts. The next phase will include a physical meeting later this year in Ghana, and we'll keep you updated on our progress!

## Springboard at the 2024 Africa Food System Forum (AFS) in Rwanda

With 38 smallholder farmer groups and over 5000 attendees at the AFS Forum 2024 in Rwanda, themed “*Innovate, Accelerate, and Scale: Delivering Food Systems Transformation in a Digital and Climate Era*”, Springboard, as a farmers’ cooperative organization, is excited to announce our participation in this year’s event. The forum brought together Africa’s youth innovators, leaders, and stakeholders in the food system to discuss the pressing issues of food insecurity and climate change affecting the continent, as well as potential solutions—an urgent concern for Africa. We are proud to have exhibited our products, demonstrated how they are transforming our rural communities, and pitched to investors to secure support for our initiatives.

## The 2024/2025 Cocoa Season is here!

The 2024/2025 cocoa season has begun, and our farmers are excited to roll up their sleeves and prepare to harvest quality, traceable cocoa pods! By the end of September, we successfully supplied our first batch of the season, 30 metric tonnes of cocoa to the global market, partnering with Barry Callebaut under the Cocoa Horizon Sustainability program. For this season, we aim to supply a total of 1,000 metric tonnes of quality, traceable cocoa beans to the global market.

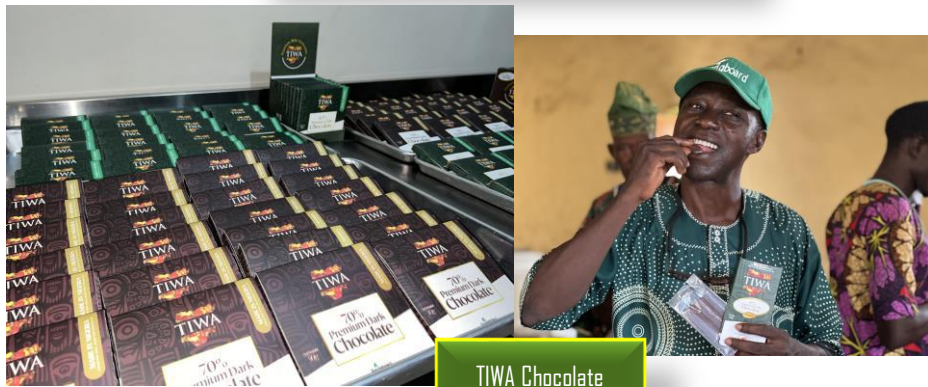


## Jobs Creation/Value addition

Springboard is committed to tackling malnutrition in rural communities and urban centers through our affordable and nutritious products, including edible cricket bread, plantain chips and chocolate. We produce healthy foods that deliver essential nutrients to Nigerians. Our mission is to ensure that individuals and families, especially vulnerable groups such as rural dwellers and children, have access to nutritious options. In doing so, we also aim to create hundreds of meaningful jobs for rural women and youth.



Cricket powder | Springboard Edible Cricket Bread



TIWA Chocolate



Springboard Plantain Chips



Each month, Springboard receives between \$25 and \$50 from the Planetary Transformation Project, USA, to support our initiatives. We have dedicated these monthly donations to empower unemployed rural women in establishing village enterprises.

One of our beneficiaries, Mama Faith from Imafon village, received approximately \$100 in July, along with financial training, to help set up a retail shop in her community. Since then, Mama Faith's business has thrived, allowing her to care for her children and family. Her store not only serves the entire village but also provides essential household items, including Springboard's food products such as Protein Bread and Banana Chips.



## A Heartfelt Thank You

Springboard's journey would not be possible without your unwavering support and partnership. On behalf of our beneficiaries – the youth, farmers, women, and communities – we extend our deepest gratitude.

Wishing you a fantastic Quarter 4, 2024.

Best regards,

Helen Lawrence-Afere

Springboard

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Photo: Springboard Farmers at the 2024 Annual General Meeting

