



Quarterly Newsletter 1 - 2025

Better Yield, Better Life for Small-scale farmers!



Hello!

As we move into the year, Springboard continues to make strides in empowering farmers, fostering sustainable livelihoods, and driving innovation. In Q1 2025, we saw impressive growth across various sectors, from a significant increase in the production of our cricket-based protein products to the successful launch of financial inclusion initiatives for our farmers. We also navigated the challenges of the 2024/2025 cocoa season, achieving remarkable milestones, including the sale of over 600 tons of cocoa beans and continued efforts to recruit new farmers into our cooperatives.

In this newsletter, we share updates on our key achievements, upcoming plans, and the partnerships that are helping us shape the future of agriculture and food security in Nigeria. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to an even more impactful year ahead.

2024/2025 Cocoa Season

The 2024/2025 cocoa season proved highly profitable for Springboard farmers, driven by a surge in cocoa prices that reached an all-time high of \$10,000 per metric ton in 2024. Despite the challenges posed by climate change, our farmers' sustainable practices helped mitigate its impact.

At Springboard, we achieved remarkable milestones during the 2024/2025 cocoa season, including:

- Over 600 tons of cocoa beans sold to the international market.
- Farmers earned a premium price, receiving five times more for their high-quality, traceable cocoa.
- A notable increase in farmers' willingness to save, securing a better financial future for themselves.

Unfortunately, due to a lack of working capital, we were unable to purchase cocoa from all our farmers during the 2024/2025 season. However, we are working diligently to secure the necessary capital before the start of the 2025/2026 cocoa season



5x Increase In Production Of Protein Products!

In Q1 2025, we increased the production of our edible cricket insect products by five times compared to Q4 2024. This surge is driven by the growing demand for our finished protein products, such as protein-enriched bread and bread buns.

Oh, and we almost forgot to mention—we've also introduced a new cricket-based product: Baked Chin-chin, fortified with protein derived from edible crickets reared by Springboard farmers.

The market potential for our protein and bakery products is significant on a local scale, presenting us with considerable growth opportunities. According to the CAGR 2024-2029, the market values for Nigerian Bread (US\$16.46BN) and Nigerian Snack Food (US\$6.5BN) are substantial. This is why we must continue scaling—helping us create more meaningful jobs, empower more farmers, and provide highly nutritious, healthy food products to Nigerians.



TIWA Chocolate

Due to the increase in cocoa prices, we experienced a significant decrease in the production of TIWA Chocolates during Q1 2025. We realized it was more profitable to sell our cocoa beans rather than produce chocolates, as we would have had to raise chocolate prices by over 100% to maintain a reasonable margin.

While there are cheaper imported chocolates available in the Nigerian market, we ask: are they really high-quality chocolates? The answer is no! Our team remains committed to innovating and creating quality chocolate products that are both affordable and accessible to Nigerians.



2025 Planting Season

As our farmers prepare for the 2025 crop planting and cocoa nurturing season, we've equipped them with the necessary inputs, seeds, seedlings, loans, and training to ensure successful planting and a bountiful harvest.



2025 Farmers' Recruitment

In Q1, we began preparations for recruiting new farmers to join our cooperatives. As part of this process, we took several key steps, including setting up a new digital platform for farmers' data collection, recruiting new field officers, and conducting sensitization visits to various communities. Our goal for 2025 is to recruit 4,000 small-scale farmers. The onboarding, training, and support will commence in April.



Springboard Has A New Board of Directors

To support our growth plan for the next five years, we've recruited a new Board of Directors. Our 7-member board is responsible for providing strategic guidance, financial oversight, and organizational leadership. You can find the profiles of our board members on our website.



Empowering Future Cocoa-preneurs: Investing In Youth's Future

At Springboard, creating sustainable livelihoods and empowering youth is at the heart of our mission. In Q1, we took a significant step by supporting five Springboard field officers on their journey to becoming Cocoa-preneurs—young entrepreneurs who aggregate cocoa from Springboard farmers on behalf of the organization and earn a commission. We provided them with start-up capital and motorcycles to help them succeed in their new roles.

This initiative reflects our strong belief in youth empowerment, and we're excited to see the positive impact they will make in their communities. We wish them the very best on their journey!



Financial Inclusion: Gateway To Financial Freedom And Prosperity

At Springboard, we understand that transforming rural communities requires intentional effort and a strategic approach. That's why we provide financial literacy training for our farmers. In February, we facilitated the enrollment of farmers to receive their National Identification Number (NIN), enabling them to open bank accounts, save securely, and access their funds with ease. Financial inclusion leads to economic empowerment. One key benefit of opening a bank account is the ease with which our farmers can receive premium payments directly from our international partners.



Partner visit: Livelihood Impact Fund

In Q1, our partner, the Livelihood Impact Fund staff members from Kenya and Rwanda paid a visit to Springboard. During their visit, we toured the Springboard Isharun Farmers' Cooperative, home to over 250 Springboard farmers, to gain firsthand insight into their progress. The farmers shared both their challenges and successes, providing valuable perspectives.

Engaging with farmers in the field reaffirms our commitment to their prosperity. Their dedication to the agricultural industry continues to inspire us and strengthens our vision for sustainable incomes.



Shop our traceable cocoa beans!

Harvest for the 2025/2026 cocoa beans will begin in September. We are currently taking offers for supply that will start in October 2025 and end in March 2026. We are now able to supply quality cocoa beans to any part of the world as we have been granted an export licence. To test the quality of our beans, we are happy to send samples for a fee. To request for our samples, please send an email to office@springboardnig.com. Thank you!

Dear Partners and Supporters,

Springboard would not be possible without your partnership and support. On behalf of our beneficiaries – the youth, farmers, women, communities and staff – we say THANK YOU for your continuous support.

Kindly [click here](#) to visit our YouTube channel to learn more about the Springboard's journey.

Thank you!

Best regards,

Helen Lawrence-Afere.

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