



U.S.-AFRICA LEADERS SUMMIT BUSINESS FORUM **COMMITMENTS**

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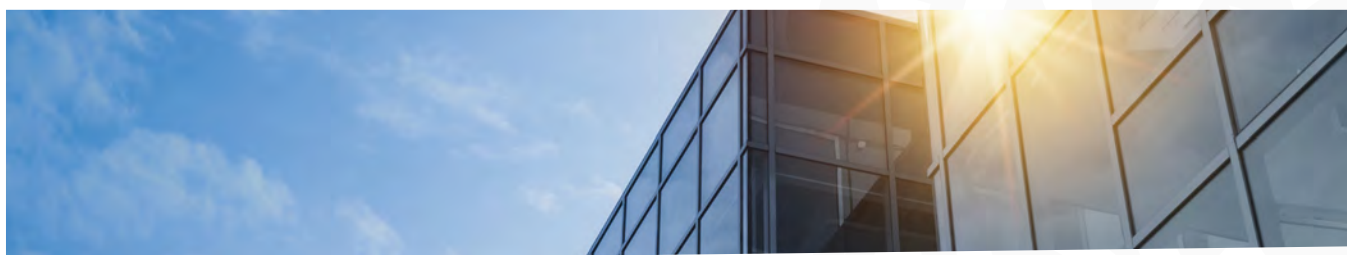
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The logo features a stylized circular emblem with concentric, jagged rings in green, yellow, and red, set against a dark blue background with a subtle geometric pattern.

U.S. AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM

WASHINGTON, D.C. | 2022

INTRODUCTION

Leaders from across the African continent gathered in Washington, DC from December 13-15, 2022, for the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit to underscore the importance of U.S.-Africa relations and increased cooperation on shared global priorities.

Held on the second day of the Summit, the U.S.-Africa Business Forum (USABF) focused on advancing two-way trade and investment partnerships that bolster Africa's role in the global economy, scaling innovation and entrepreneurship, and driving advancements in key sectors.

Under the theme "Partnering for a Prosperous and Resilient Future," the Business Forum featured a Deal Room, hosted by Prosper Africa, where U.S. and African businesses, governments, and investors announced bold, new commitments. The investments and partnerships showcased at USABF, valued at \$15.7 billion, will enhance

trade, create jobs, build economies, and drive inclusive and sustainable growth on both sides of the Atlantic in sectors including sustainable energy, African health systems, agribusiness, digital connectivity, infrastructure, and finance. Public and private sector announcements reflect shared commitments to engage diaspora-led businesses, women-led firms and funds, and small businesses, which are the lifeblood of economies.

This Commitments Book features a selection of new partnerships and deals from the U.S. Government and private sector announced during the Business Forum.

U.S.-AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM COMMITMENTS 2022

MOBILIZING TRADE AND INVESTMENT

PRIVATE SECTOR

Acrow Bridge, ABD Group, and the **Government of Angola** are working together to develop, finance, and build 186 steel bridges covering every territory of Angola. The Presidential Decree has been signed to award the project in the amount of **\$371 million**. Construction will start in 2023. This new infrastructure will strengthen local supply chains and create new economic opportunities in Angola while directly supporting hundreds of U.S. manufacturing jobs and indirectly thousands across the steel industry.

Africa50, the project preparation arm of the **African Development Bank**, is announcing the establishment of its **Alliance for Green Infrastructure Africa (AGIA) Fund**. The Fund will accelerate Africa's just and equitable net zero transition through project preparation, development, and financing for green infrastructure on the continent. **The U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)** will contribute project preparation and development as an implementing partner.

Baylis Emerging Markets, an African markets private equity firm, established a wholly owned subsidiary entity, valued at \$200 million, and is supporting investment activities in the African telecommunications landscape. **Baylis Digital Infrastructure Africa LLC ("Baylis Digital")** will acquire, develop, and operate premier digital infrastructure and telecommunications assets across the continent to help support Africa's digital convergence with the global community. Baylis has also completed a \$500,000 growth equity investment in **Legendary Foods Africa ("Legendary Foods")**. The investment is part of the Firm's broader strategy to enhance domestic production capacity on the continent through the support of local manufacturing and agricultural processing.

Casey Family Programs is announcing approximately **\$100 million** in new commitments to projects in Africa. The new projects include expanding direct lending via the Ninety One Africa Credit Opportunities Fund; a commitment to Pembani Remgro (PRIF); and a new private real estate deal. These investments will contribute to developing a secondary market, creating liquidity and attracting other investors.

Corvus Health, a global medical training company, and the **African Healthcare Federation** are partnering to conduct a survey of the Federation's members' needs and barriers to doing business with U.S. firms. The survey will provide new insights into Africa's healthcare landscape with the goal of increasing trade between African and U.S. businesses. The survey results will inform recommendations on the U.S. President's Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa (PAC-DBIA).

The **Equity Bank Group**, lead investor in the transformative "Africa Recovery and Resilience Plan," is delivering new commitments through an investment of **\$7 billion** into a dedicated fund. The resilience plan is a private sector stimulus package agreed upon by the UN, African Union, USAID, East African Community, IFC/World Bank, and other international stakeholders. This investment will facilitate commitments to double crop yields, formalize artisanal miners in the Democratic Republic of Congo, finance key manufacturing hubs in key sectors of agriculture value addition/extractives, finance five million micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and support the deployment of 500 affordable health clinics.

Ford has announced that its Silverton Assembly Plant in Pretoria, South Africa, began production of the Next-Generation Ranger for customers in more than 100 markets around the world. Production was made possible by a major **\$1.05 billion** investment by Ford in its South African operations and supplier tooling. Through extensive upgrades and the latest in production technologies, the investment will allow Ford to achieve the highest-ever installed capacity of 200,000 vehicles per year at the Silverton plant, while creating an additional 1,200 jobs and bringing Ford's South African workforce to 5,500 employees, plus an additional 10,000 jobs added to the supplier value chain. The start of Next-Gen Ranger production in South Africa highlights Ford's commitment to delivering must-have products for customers not just in South Africa but around the world.

Cabo Verde's oldest fishery product canner **SUCLA (Sociedade Ultramarina de Conservas)** is leveraging a **\$1.9 million** investment co-financed by the **USAID West Africa Trade and Investment Hub** to expand distribution to up to 350 outlets in the United States by 2024. SUCLA registered its trademark with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in 2022, opening the way to expand exports of canned tuna to the United States. Trade promotion agency Cabo Verde TradeInvest and the New Hampshire Liquor Commission reached an agreement to expand imports of the cane-distilled artisanal spirit grogue, already available in the Boston area, to the Granite State. The first two brands of the traditional Cabo Verdean libation will appear in NH Liquor & Wine Outlets by the end of 2022.

Vista Bank is announcing its intention to expand to 25 African countries by 2025, and is in the process of acquiring additional bank assets for expansion. Vista Bank currently operates as a full-service commercial bank and provides a comprehensive range of services to a diverse customer base, including retail, corporate, and SME clients, as well as the public sector. Vista's efforts seek to promote regional and cross-border integration that creates value for the African economy and supports sustainable growth, making Africa a more attractive location for U.S. companies.

Yeleen Enterprises is committing to invest **\$1.6 million** to build the Yeleen Beauty Makerspace, which will create 200 manufacturing jobs in Washington, DC, and generate \$55 million in new business over the next ten years. In that period, the company plans to expand into six new African countries and increase its suppliers from 800 to more than 6,000, and source 28 tons of African agricultural products each quarter. Through a grant-based partnership with the **DC government**, Yeleen Enterprises will support its vision of financially empowering underserved women in the beauty industry. The company is expanding its domestic manufacturing base to diversify its ethical supply chains and source value-added ingredients that will create new, premium, personal care products for the growing global consumer demand for chemical-free plant-based beauty brands.

U.S. GOVERNMENT

Through the **Prosper Africa** initiative, the **U.S. Government** is planning to invest **\$170 million**, pending funding availability, to boost African exports to the United States by **\$1 billion** and mobilize an **additional \$1 billion** in U.S. investment in Africa. As part of this commitment, Prosper Africa announced five new partnerships with African asset fund managers under a new Catalytic Investment Facility that will mobilize over **\$200 million** in private capital to fuel African innovation and entrepreneurship. These partnerships will invest in small businesses and entrepreneurs that are advancing solutions to global challenges, including climate change and gender inequality.

In support of **Prosper Africa**, the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** is partnering with **TradeMark East Africa** to invest in trade-enabling infrastructure and expanded access to trade finance in East Africa through an investment facility, Trade Catalyst Africa (TCA). With **\$25 million** from the U.S. Government, the facility will leverage at least **\$90 million** of private capital for co-investment. The fund has the potential to expand continent-wide in support of a key priority of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

EXIM and **Africa50** are signing an Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) that will facilitate up to **\$300 million** in EXIM financing for the export of U.S. goods and services to buyers throughout Africa, particularly in support of infrastructure, transportation, digital technology, and renewable energy projects. The MOU will allow Africa50, a significant mobilizer of financing throughout Africa, to enhance collaboration with EXIM and assist in matching U.S. businesses with medium-to-large scale bankable infrastructure projects throughout the Continent. The MOU will foster economic opportunity and support jobs in Africa and the United States.

EXIM and the **Africa Finance Corporation (AFC)** are signing a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance economic cooperation between both institutions with respect to the trade of goods and services from the United States. The MOU, which will support up to **\$500 million** of U.S. goods and services exports, will allow EXIM and AFC to harmonize efforts as it relates to economic development, the promotion of U.S.-Africa trade, the financing of trade-enabling projects, and knowledge-sharing between the two institutions. In particular, the MOU will allow for enhanced opportunities for collaboration on projects in the renewable energy, critical minerals, and various infrastructure sectors.

EXIM and the **Afreximbank** are signing a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen EXIM's commercial ties to Afreximbank by increasing access of both institutions' financial products and support diaspora commercial engagement across Africa recognizing the close social and economic ties to the continent. The MOU will support up to **\$500 million** in exports of U.S. goods and services in a variety of sectors, to include power generation, renewable energy, agriculture, aviation, and water and sanitation. The MOU will foster economic opportunity and job creation throughout Africa and the U.S. and represents the Administration's commitment to revitalizing institutional partnerships and collaborations with Africa.

The **Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)** and the **U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)** are entering into a Memorandum of Understanding to further collaboration and advance infrastructure transactions in the region. This agreement both refreshes and adds sub-sector level specificity to an existing Memorandum of Understanding entered in 2013. Areas of specific collaboration include green hydrogen, transmission infrastructure, and digital projects across sub-Saharan Africa.

The **U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)** is planning an up to **\$80 million** direct loan to the **Urban Resilience Fund**, a blended finance investment fund managed by Meridiam Group, that will enable municipalities to identify, develop, and invest in essential infrastructure projects that respond to the critical needs of urban population growth in Africa. By supporting this investment, DFC will catalyze private capital and collaborate with other development finance institutions to bring resilient solutions to climate-affected populations in African cities.

DFC is committing an up to **\$25 million** equity investment in **Uhuru Growth Fund I-A** that will drive catalytic capital for consumer-facing sectors such as financial services in lower-income and lower-middle income countries. Target businesses will operate in a range of sectors, including agriculture, consumer foods, logistics, and financial services.

DFC is committing a **\$5 million** loan portfolio guarantee to **Equity Banque Commerciale du Congo SA** to support micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the Democratic Republic of Congo, with a focus on agriculture and renewable energy investments, in coordination with USAID and co-guarantor Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

DFC is committing an equity investment equivalent of **\$10 million** to the **Water Access Acceleration Fund (W2AF)**. W2AF is a \$52 million blended finance fund, accompanied by a \$2.6 million technical assistance facility sponsored by Danone S.A. and managed by Incofin Investment Management NV. The fund will invest in about 10 small and medium-sized enterprises in the water, sanitation, and hygiene sector to scale access to potable and affordable water in Sub-Saharan Africa and other emerging markets. W2AF aligns with DFC's priorities for water and sanitation, health, climate adaptation and resilience and women's empowerment. W2AF also has strong support from USAID with their commitment of over \$1 million for technical assistance and first loss.

DFC is committing a **\$15 million** equity investment in the Norrsken22 Africa Fund, a women-led fund investing in high-impact technology companies across Africa. The fund will support entrepreneurship and technological advancements in finance, medicine, and education, with a particular focus on Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, and South Africa.

The U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) and **Standard Bank** are deepening their partnership in support of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) across Africa to launch a newly expanded catalytic grant funding program in Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and other future markets. It is anticipated that the expanded program will invest an additional **\$5 million** over the next five years with each party contributing equally to this new initiative. USADF and Standard Bank have collectively taken this step due to the early success of a joint program in Kenya that addresses MSMEs' need to access capital but are unable to meet the threshold required by commercial lenders.





U.S.-AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM COMMITMENTS 2022

CLIMATE AND ENERGY

PRIVATE SECTOR

The **Africa Finance Corporation's (AFC)** Renewable Energy Platform is the largest in Africa and comprises operational, construction, and development of wind, solar, and hydro assets across several African countries. AFC is committing to growing its Renewable Energy Platform from 1.4GW to 5GW by 2025, through expanding the capacity of its operational assets and the Lekela wind energy platform that the Corporation recently acquired in partnership with Infinity Energy. The Lekela wind energy platform includes 7 assets in 5 countries.

Dow, a U.S. material sciences company, is scaling their partnership with Kenyan recycling company, **Mr. Green**, to build a circular economy with waste management at its core by integrating and skilling informal waste collectors, leveraging technology to manage and streamline operations in emerging markets, and ensuring fairly-sourced recycled materials are built into the economic value chain for manufacturing of high quality products for local and international markets. Through Dow's expanded engagement with Mr. Green, this partnership seeks to divert 90 kilotons of plastic waste from illegal dumpsites and landfills. The partnership will add flexible plastics as an additional recyclables category, which will create 200 jobs and empower 5,000 waste pickers through regular and reliable employment over the next four years.

Energicity Corp., a leading developer and operator of solar powered mini-grid utilities, is committing a **\$15 million** investment to deploy rural mini-grid projects across Sierra Leone and Liberia. In the first phase completed in 2022, Energicity provided electricity to 50,000 people in Sierra Leone. The next phase, which will be completed in 2024, will expand to Benin and Liberia providing electricity for the first time to 100,000 people in rural areas. The newest phase of these projects includes new investments from U.S. based investors Ecosystem Integrity Fund IV, Treehouse Management, and King Philanthropies, which have invested \$4 million in the project. Additionally, there will be a combination \$4 million in grants, including an \$850,000 grant from Millennium Challenge Corporation and \$7 million in debt supporting the development.

U.S.-based startup **KoBold Metals**, which uses artificial intelligence to discover the critical materials for the electric vehicle and renewable energy revolution, together with its partners **EMR capital**, a specialist mining equity firm, and Zambia's public-private mining company ZCCM-IH, is announcing a **\$150 million** investment to own, explore, and develop the Mingomba deposit and to support the Lubambe Copper Mine in Chililabombwe, Zambia. This deal is expanding and strengthening the United States' supply chain security for cobalt and nickel, both of which are critical to electric vehicle battery production, and generating hundreds of jobs for Zambian communities, both directly and through expanded demand for local procurement

Energy tech innovator, **Lifezone**, is filing its merger agreement with **GoGreen Investments** for approval by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The merger is the first of multiple phases of a targeted **\$1 billion** investment into Tanzania's Kabanga Nickel project – a mine-to-metal operation producing Class 1 nickel, cobalt, and copper refined metals. Based on test studies, the technology has the potential to be a more cost-efficient alternative to conventional smelting with a significantly lower environmental impact. Lifezone will leverage its patented hydromet technology to build and operate a planned nickel refinery hub in Tanzania. Kabanga is one of the largest and highest quality undeveloped nickel sulfide deposits globally. This investment has the potential to promote economic development for the region and bolster exports of valuable metals from Tanzania.

The **Mozambican Ministry of Energy** is partnering with **eleQtra**, a leading player in the development, investment, and management of private energy infrastructure in Sub-Saharan Africa. This **\$300 million** deal aims to build a 120-megawatt wind farm in the Namaacha District of Mozambique, the first independent power producing wind project in the country. This new facility has the potential to create 300 jobs and lower carbon dioxide emissions by an amount in excess of 200,000 metric tons per year.

MyHydro, a partnership of international power developer **Symbion Power** and San Francisco-based **Natel Energy**, is investing **\$1 billion** over the next 10 years to install fish-safe, low-head hydropower-based distributed systems with associated mini-grids at low cost across the African continent. MyHydro executed a contract to acquire four turbines from Natel Energy for the first of 33 sites in DRC, as part of the initial investment on the Lubi River in the Kasai Province. Symbion Power will also build and operate a \$97 million 35 MW geothermal power plant in the Menengai Volcanic Crater in Kenya's Great Rift Valley, under a 25-year Power Purchase Agreement signed with Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and a Steam Supply Agreement signed with the Geothermal Development Company (GDC).

OnePower, a fast-growing startup based in Lesotho, finalized an agreement with **Lesotho's Ministry of Energy** for the country's first privately financed solar project. This 20MW **\$25 million** solar project represents a significant investment toward the country's climate resilience, providing long-standing benefits to the communities in the area and sufficient energy to light 50,000 homes. This project has been supported in part through a \$600,000 grant from **USTDA** and reflects a significant U.S. investment for local capacity building to develop and maintain this asset.

YAATRA Ventures is leading the private sector investor group and, together with the **Government of Uganda** and East African investment partners, will achieve a Final Investment Decision for a combined **\$1.5 billion** total equity investment in early 2023 for the East Africa Energy Security and Transition Project. The project will support a regional energy facility producing finished fuels and associated storage, transportation, and domestic market distribution infrastructure. The project will support regional industries including transportation, agriculture, and manufacturing and create approximately 40,000 direct and indirect jobs during its lifetime.

U.S. GOVERNMENT

The **Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM)** is announcing financing in the amount of **\$7.4 million** for **Sapele Power Plc (Sapele)** for the purchase of energy storage systems from **ESS Tech, Inc (ESS)**. Based in Wilsonville, Oregon, ESS designs, builds, and deploys iron flow batteries for long-duration commercial and utility-scale energy storage applications. Sapele is a Nigerian integrated energy company specializing in power generation.

DFC is committing a **\$25 million** direct investment in **Golomoti Solar** to finance a 20 MW solar power plant and 5MW/10MWh battery energy storage system in Malawi's Dedza district. The plant is one of the first in Sub-Saharan Africa to include a grid-connected battery energy storage system that will help ensure a reliable supply and reduce frequent blackouts.

DFC is committing an up to **\$40 million** equity investment in the **Africa Renewable Energy Fund II**, managed by Berkeley Partners LLP. The fund will dedicate capital to mid-sized renewable energy projects across Sub-Saharan Africa, increasing access to clean electricity. The fund will invest in projects at both the development and construction stages, with a geographic focus on Angola, Cameroon, Kenya, Madagascar, and Malawi. This investment advances several DFC priorities, including increasing access to reliable and clean energy and creating jobs in low- and lower-middle-income countries.

DFC is committing up to **\$40 million** in financing to the **Energy Entrepreneurs Growth Fund (EEGF)**. EEGF offers catalytic financing and technical assistance to early and growth-stage companies that increase access to clean, safe, dependable, and affordable energy for off-grid households and businesses in Sub-Saharan Africa. The fund's investments are expected to provide access to clean energy for an estimated five million people.

DFC is announcing a **\$100 million** debt investment in the **Mirova Gigaton Empowerment Fund**, which will finance distributed clean energy transition companies and projects to build climate-friendly solutions in response to increasing demand for energy in developing countries. The fund is expected to increase access to reliable and cost-effective off-grid solar energy for tens of millions of low-income people, predominantly in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Through a powerhouse collaboration between **Power Africa, Prosper Africa**, international cleantech energy companies, and key energy stakeholders across Africa, the **Clean Tech Energy Network (CTEN)** is bridging the electricity gap in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). This new network will empower clean technology energy companies in the U.S. and Africa to improve energy access through megawatt generation and newly established electricity connections. The network will introduce and integrate leading U.S. technology to increase the efficiency of the power sectors across Africa while simultaneously spurring U.S. clean energy exports

Power Africa is announcing a Global Development Alliance, one of the largest in USAID history, in support of the **Healthcare Electrification and Telecommunications Alliance (HETA)**, which was launched under the White House Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment. The five-year agreement will invest USAID resources to leverage more than **\$150 million** of additional private sector resources to install reliable, renewable power and provide mobile network and internet access for at least 10,000 health facilities across sub-Saharan Africa.

Power Africa is launching a new activity to support women's participation in the energy sector through 1) Training: Building the capacity of women to gain the specific skills needed in the renewable energy sector through; 2) Increasing Demand: Working with renewable energy companies to adopt policies that promote gender equity in the workforce; and 3) Job Placement: Connecting the pipeline of skilled women with renewable energy companies.

USTDA is providing a feasibility study grant to the provincial government of Equateur in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** to develop a comprehensive and reliable clean energy solution for the city of Mbandaka. The city is home to over two million residents who lack connectivity to the national power grid. The study will assess the economic and technical viability of utility-scale infrastructure to generate and store solar energy, and of building the DRC's first electric tuk-tuk vehicle charging station.

USTDA is funding a feasibility study for Zambian renewable energy procurer, **GreenCo Power Services Limited**. The study will develop and pilot technology for a utility-scale battery energy storage project in the Sesheke District, Zambia, and recommend additional project sites. The full implementation of this technology at multiple sites could reduce carbon emissions by an estimated 26,000 metric tons per year, while providing sustainability, resilience, and reliability to Zambia's power grid.

USTDA is providing a technical assistance grant to Ivorian energy company, **Ecostar**, for the development of a cotton-stalk biomass power plant. The 25-megawatt facility would supply power to Cote d'Ivoire's national grid by transforming agricultural waste from the country's flourishing cotton sector into energy.

USTDA is awarding a grant to Sierra Leone-based green infrastructure developer, **Sewa Energy Resources**, to fund the supplementary engineering and environmental studies required by potential financiers for a 27-megawatt run-of-river hydroelectric plant at Betmai Falls. The plant would supplement Sierra Leone's current estimated 167 megawatts of energy capacity, increasing access to reliable power generated through renewable energy.

U.S.-AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM COMMITMENTS 2022

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



PRIVATE SECTOR

U.S. developer **ABD Group** is announcing plans to establish new data centers across Africa. This **\$500 million**, multi-year commitment is set to provide secure, globally competitive infrastructure that will bolster African digital economies. Through such investments, ABD Group hopes to encourage African governments to embrace and prioritize digital infrastructure development and implement policies that promote the growth of the digital economy in emerging economies across the continent.

A powerful combination of American ICT capabilities has assembled to embrace Africa's multiple digital opportunities and challenges, leveraging the best of U.S. technology with insights and customization from the African-American diaspora. **Cybastion**, a diaspora-owned security firm and **Cisco** Systems partner, is facilitating ten major cybersecurity export contracts in Niger, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Congo Brazzaville, Benin, and Cameroon, totaling **\$858 million**. These contracts are set to bolster the extension of digital platforms with robust cybersecurity protection, and will be a driver for economic development and investment, organizational transparency, and human capacity building. The Cybastion-Cisco offerings, in concert with other U.S. technology and services providers, offer superior solutions, genuine network integrity and substantial training opportunities and workforce development, anchored by the on-ground intimacy which Cybastion brings as a diaspora company. Cisco is a worldwide leader in technology and networking, helping companies of all sizes transform the way they connect, communicate, and collaborate. Cybastion's work with Cisco developing robust, world-class cybersecurity solutions tailored to suit the needs of businesses, governments, and public sector entities – is strengthening cybersecurity in Africa.

Cisco is committing **\$200 million** to deliver expanded digital and cybersecurity skills training to 3 million people in Africa over the next 10 years through its Cisco Networking Academy. Through investments in cybersecurity infrastructure and skills development, African countries will be better able to defend themselves against large-scale cyber-attacks – protecting their people, their economies, and bridging digital divides across the continent.

GatesAir is announcing a new **\$39.8 million** deal with **Radio Nacional for Angola (RNA)**, which represents Phase 1 of a project to bring FM radio to 95% of the populated regions of Angola. This first phase, which will supply 186 transmitters, has been approved for financing by the US EXIM Bank and will begin in early 2023.

IBM is announcing a commitment to advance the skills of 30 million people by 2030 globally, particularly in underrepresented communities, by offering the services of their SkillsBuild partners. This pro-bono platform offers sought-after technology courses as well as professional skills like project management, delivered in 19 languages. IBM is also partnering with the **Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence (ACE) Impact** project to build the capacity of these centers through STEM training workshops for ACE faculty and students on Artificial Intelligence and Cloud Application and providing student internship opportunities at IBM Research Labs in Kenya and South Africa. IBM will also expand and grow new partnerships with 20 HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities). These universities have access to a customized, multi-year cybersecurity experience with IBM, including online learning curricula, cloud access, and an immersive learning experience to expand their capacity to develop top talent in the cybersecurity sector.

Mastercard Community Pass is a shared interoperable digital platform that provides a commercially sustainable approach to increasing access and scaling delivery of agriculture, healthcare, and micro-commerce services for individuals in underserved, remote, and frequently offline communities. With a growing presence in Africa and nearly two million users registered in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, and Mauritania, Mastercard aims to connect 15 million people in Africa alone to the Community Pass platform by 2027. This marks a major investment by Mastercard and its partners into digital infrastructure in the region, with the goal of building a more inclusive and sustainable digital economy for all.

Microsoft is launching two new initiatives to expand access to broadband connectivity and digital skills across Africa. First, Microsoft will work to bring broadband access to the internet to 100 million people across Africa by the end of 2025 through its Airband Initiative. The program brings together partners that include backhaul telecommunications companies, internet service providers, energy companies, local governments, and other business partners. It also involves a close partnership with USAID. The initiative announcement this week includes a new partnership with satellite telecommunications provider Viasat, Microsoft's first satellite provider partnership. Second, as Africa increasingly connects to the internet, its citizens will need to defend its growing digital ecosystem and protect new users. To help African learners gain cyber security skills, Microsoft will offer free access to LinkedIn cybersecurity courses, including a new, free Career Essentials Certificate in Systems Administration from Microsoft and LinkedIn and multiple Microsoft courses in advanced cybersecurity. In addition, working with our nonprofit partners, Microsoft will provide 12 months of LinkedIn premium access for the first 10,000 African learners that complete a Career Essentials Certificate in Systems Administration, helping them connect to jobs in the cybersecurity field.

The National Basketball Association (NBA) has confirmed an expansion agreement with **Entertainment and Sports Programming Network (ESPN) Africa**, along with a multi-year extension deal. Since 2019, ESPN Africa has been the NBA's pay-TV broadcast associate for the continent, and with this extension, the channel will air more than 180 regular-season and Playoff games across the continent. With a multimillion-dollar investment, NBA launched Africa's first NBA Store in Johannesburg, South Africa and announced their plans to launch the league's fourth African office in Cairo, Egypt, in early 2023.

OSI Systems is supplying Ghanaian concessionaire, **Nick TC Scan Ltd.**, with a new Eagle A25 X-ray pallet scanner for their operations at Accra airport. The contract is valued at **\$2.5 million**, and the scanner is due to be installed in April, 2023. The cargo scanner will be used to screen imports coming off cargo planes, and will improve the security of Ghana's borders, mitigate against trade fraud, and assist with the collection of trade revenue.

The Government of Senegal, through the Ministry of the Interior, is awarding **Motorola Solutions** a contract to deploy a secure nationwide digital network to modernize public safety communications in Senegal. This new system, based on state-of-the-art P25 technology, will give Senegal the most advanced public safety network in the continent, and improve public safety by streamlining communication between Senegal's police, fire, ambulance, and other emergency services - reducing emergency response times. The system will span more than 100 sites in Senegal, with Motorola Solutions providing 24/7 technical support and maintenance. It will bring significant economic benefits to Senegal via extensive sub-contracts and employment opportunities for Senegalese companies to support the system's installation and ongoing maintenance.

Visa Inc., a global payments technology company, is announcing a pledge to invest more than **\$1 billion** over the next five years in Africa to accelerate the digital economy. These investments demonstrate the company's long-term commitment to Africa's growth and development, building on 30 years of presence on the continent. Visa's expanded investments will further scale Visa's operations, deploy new innovations and technology, and deepen collaboration with strategic partners including government, financial institutions, mobile operators, fintechs, and merchants.

U.S. GOVERNMENT

Ubuntu Towers, an independent developer and operator of passive telecommunications infrastructure in Uganda, is helping to accelerate Africa's ICT transformation. Through advisory services from **Prosper Africa**, Ubuntu Towers gained the attention of a major bank on the continent. This bank is affording the company a **\$35 million** long-term commercial loan, providing the capital needed to expand ICT infrastructure in East Africa. ICT is a transformative sector with the potential to reduce poverty, improve access to health and education services, and create new sources of income and employment.

USTDA is conducting a study for **Converged Technology Networks Limited**, a Malawian internet service provider, which will support the expansion of fixed wireless and fiber access networks across the country. This will provide internet access to underserved Malawian small and medium enterprises as well as over 800,000 individuals in private households.

USTDA is hosting a reverse trade mission to connect public and private sector representatives from across Southern Africa with the latest U.S. technologies, services, and financing solutions for last-mile connectivity. The visit will support the expansion of internet access and accelerate digital transformation across the sub-region to bridge the digital divide. The event is expected to take place in March 2023.

USTDA is conducting a study for Nairobi-based internet service provider, **Poa! Internet**, to support the delivery of affordable fixed wireless internet access to one million African households in low-income urban communities across the continent.



U.S.-AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM COMMITMENTS 2022

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE



PRIVATE SECTOR

Abbott's Pandemic Defense Coalition is adding two new partners in Egypt and Sierra Leone, providing research in new strains of known viral pathogens, including HIV and hepatitis. In Sierra Leone, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Project 1808, University of Sierra Leone-Freetown, and Koinadugu College, Abbott will establish the West Africa One Health Center, a new regional hub for research, education, training, and strengthening virus surveillance capacity. In Egypt, by the end of the year, Abbott will be partnering with the Faculty of Medicine Ain Shams Research Institute-Clinical Research Centre (MASRI-CRC) in Cairo to identify novel pathogens and characterize their sequences from patients with respiratory illnesses in Egypt, support surveillance for acute viral Hepatitis, and evaluate the performance of blood screening.

U.S. developer, **ABD Group** is joining forces with **General Electric Healthcare** to assist in the transformation of Cote d'Ivoire's medical systems. Through a **\$160 million** investment, these two corporate giants are developing the capabilities of more than 100 hospitals across Cote d'Ivoire and providing them with GE Healthcare's equipment that will facilitate new treatment options for the country's patients. These deals are bridging the healthcare funding gap across the continent, addressing unmet healthcare needs, and building new private-public sector relationships.

Pan-African health tech company **mPharma**, headquartered in Ghana, is investing **\$43 million** in Nigeria to build out its conversion franchise program, **QualityRx**. This new investment will upgrade its current network of healthcare facilities – which includes local community pharmacies (mutti pharmacies) and medicine vendors (Goodhealth shops) – while also launching new facilities across the country. It has recently grown its network from 224 to 364 health facilities with the acquisition of HealthPlus, the largest pharmacy chain in Nigeria, bringing increased access to affordable healthcare services to an estimated 100,000 more Nigerians each month. In line with its vision to expand primary care focused health facilities, mPharma plans to grow to over 1070 mutti pharmacies and 364 Goodhealth shops by 2025, providing affordable healthcare services and medication to some of the most marginalized communities in the country.

Pharmaceuticals giant **Pfizer**, in partnership with the **BioVac Institute**, a South African bio-pharmaceutical company, is committing a **\$15.5 million** investment towards the launch of a Freezer Farm for the storage of vaccines. This two-story, 1100 square-meter building, will house 135 Ultra Low freezers capable of storing vaccines at a temperature of -70 degrees Celsius. The investment will see Africa's first Freezer Farm being constructed to store essential vaccines, for COVID-19 and other viruses. It will also create more than 400 permanent skilled jobs and strengthen the continent's ability to respond effectively to viral outbreaks in the future.

Standard Bank and **GE Healthcare** are expanding their collaboration, driven by a shared vision and purpose, and will work together to make new financing of up to **\$80 million** available for GE equipment to Standard Bank customers across the continent over the next 5 years, with a focus in South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya, Mozambique, and Angola. The collaboration is already drastically improving accessibility to healthcare in South Africa, disbursing R650 million worth of specialized radiology equipment to date. Using the South African initiative as a blueprint, GE Healthcare and Standard Bank will make cutting-edge GE Healthcare equipment and solutions available to communities that might otherwise not have access.

American radiation oncology treatments and software maker, **Varian Medical Systems**, is partnering with **Botswana's Health Ministry** to supply the country's first linear accelerator in the public sector. These devices provide targeted radiation treatments for patients with cancer. The **\$5 million** deal will increase Botswana's public cancer care access by over 200%. Varian has also signed a Memorandum Of Understanding with the Nigerian Sovereign Investment Authority to assist in establishing new cancer care centers in Nigeria, with a total value of up to \$20 million. Currently less than 5% of the Nigerian population of over 210 million have access to comprehensive cancer care. This additional equipment along with the strategic partnership is a first step in expanding cancer care to underrepresented communities across the country.



U.S. GOVERNMENT

Facilitated through its partnership with **Prosper Africa**, Moroccan pharmaceutical distributor **Biotessia**, and **MawiDNA**, an American producer of bio sampling products, is embarking on a joint venture to establish a local production site for DNA sample collection technologies and kits, which can be provided to African markets at a significantly lower cost. The pair secured a grant from Morocco's government for 25% of the capital required to start the project. The funding will support Biotessia's vision to distribute diagnostic tests that help detect common diseases in Morocco and Africa, especially in the rural and secluded areas of the continent.

DFC and **USAID** are announcing their partnership with the **Transform Health Fund**, an innovative blended-finance fund focused on locally-led health supply chain, care delivery, and digital solutions in Africa. DFC and USAID will finalize **\$10 million** in equity financing and **\$1 million** in catalytic grant funding, respectively. With these investments, the Fund announced approved commitments of \$40 million. The majority women-led fund is a collaborative effort bringing together government, donor, and commercial investments under the leadership of AfricInvest and the Health Finance Coalition to finance enterprises that improve health system resilience and pandemic preparedness across the continent.

Elephant Healthcare is developing a platform to digitize clinics and create a connected medical management system that utilizes blockchain and decentralized infrastructure for health applications. This enables hospitals worldwide to serve patients in low-income communities. With a reach in African countries like Nigeria, Ghana, and Kenya, Elephant Healthcare partnered with **Prosper Africa** to assess available opportunities to build insurance products and an insurance marketplace on the continent. Elephant Health received **\$25 million** in term sheets in its capital raising drive, meaning the company can explore inclusive insurance solutions that provide access to quality healthcare for millions in Africa.

USTDA is launching a new initiative to develop resilient healthcare infrastructure, further accessibility to effective service delivery, and support a stronger enabling environment for quality healthcare across Africa. Through this initiative, USTDA is convening several American industry associations to exchange insights and approaches to addressing common goals and challenges. These deepened relationships will also facilitate USTDA's work to respond to developmental needs in Africa.

USTDA is hosting a series of five workshops starting in 2023 with the focus on developing Africa's healthcare regulatory systems. The 'Africa Regulatory Convergence for Healthcare Products' workshop series will support Africa's alignment with international health standards and further converge regulatory healthcare systems across the continent.

USTDA is funding a feasibility study for Nigerian private healthcare network, **Lily Hospitals Limited**. The study will support the acquisition, refurbishment, and operation of ten healthcare facilities under the network. Its findings will recommend the most suitable facilities, business models, and financing options. The facilities will serve up to 25,000 patients annually.

USTDA is funding a feasibility study for **Cedarcrest Hospitals Limited**, a Nigerian private health operator, to develop a comprehensive cancer treatment center in Abuja that will provide diagnosis and treatment services for up to 1,000 patients per year. The center will offer full-range oncology services to include prevention and screening, diagnostics, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, surgical oncology, and radiotherapy.

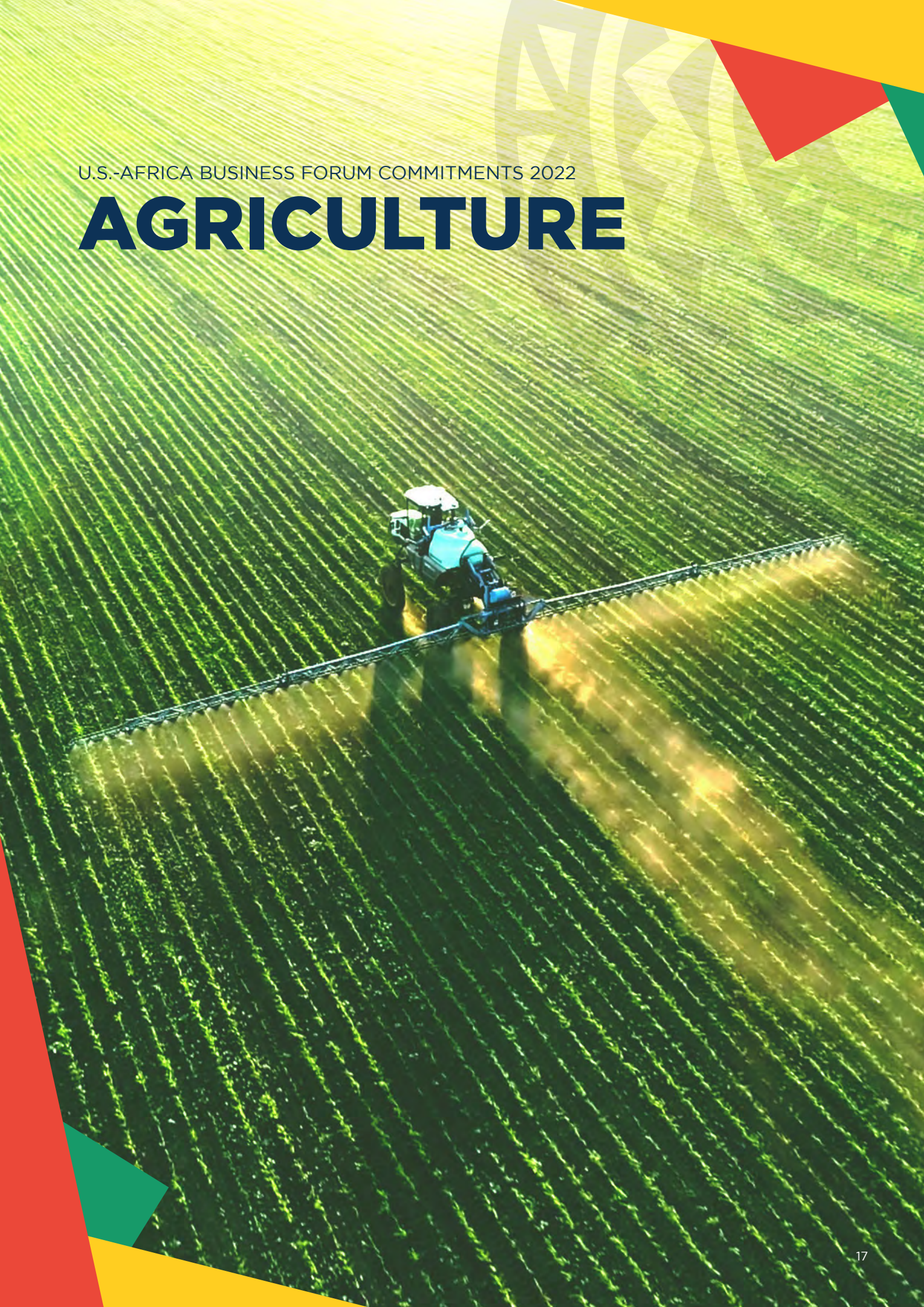
USTDA is funding a feasibility study for Nigeria's **Mobihealthcare Limited (Mobihealth)** to support the expansion of its telehealth services from Nigeria to Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, and Egypt. USTDA's study will include a detailed market assessment, financial analysis, and legal and regulatory assessment for each of the four countries. The Africa Investment Forum is collaborating with USTDA to facilitate the development and financing of Mobihealth's expansion project once the study is complete. This effort will help expand healthcare access for 100,000 individuals per year across Africa.

USTDA is funding a feasibility study for **Fly Zipline Ghana Limited (Zipline)** to expand healthcare access and related-sector logistics in Ghana and Nigeria using unmanned aerial vehicles. Zipline is an American company that designs, manufactures, and operates delivery drones in several countries, including Ghana and Rwanda. In addition to making healthcare more accessible and affordable, the project is anticipated to increase access to e-commerce, postal, and agricultural products in hard-to-reach areas, helping to stimulate local economies and reducing costs and time to access goods and services.

Ghanaian biotech company, **Yemaachi**, is pioneering cutting edge immunogenomics, bioinformatics, and artificial intelligence to accelerate the development of cancer detection and cure strategies, with the goal of lowering the economic burden of cancer on the African continent. Through its partnership with **Prosper Africa**, which provided transaction advisory services to raise capital, Yemaachi secured the financial support of a prominent U.S.-based venture capital firm with an eye for companies innovating in the technology sector. The **\$12 million** investment will allow Yemaachi to expand its African footprint and further its research into addressing ethnic disparities in clinical oncological outcomes on the continent.

U.S.-AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM COMMITMENTS 2022

AGRICULTURE





PRIVATE SECTOR

Coscharis Farms Limited is investing over **\$10.5 million** to increase utilization of the Coscharis Rice Mill, with the goal of increasing revenues from \$9 million to \$15 million and achieving a 20% market share by 2024. Coscharis is partnering with **USAID** to provide 4,000 smallholder farmers with access to finance, inputs, mechanization, and training to increase crop yields.

Nigeria-based **Cropsafe** is tackling post-harvest production losses in Africa's agriculture sector by providing grain preservation, aggregation, and off-taking services to smallholder farmers in the country. Through a partnership with **Prosper Africa**, which provided transaction advisory support, Cropsafe is able to secure pre-seed investment from Acumen, a global non-profit impact investment fund. Through the investment, Cropsafe has the potential to strengthen its operations in North-Central Africa, providing the necessary mechanisms for farmers to cut production losses, and boost economic growth and food security in the region.

Fursa Foods Limited is partnering with **USAID** to meet increasing local and export demand for maize flour, bran, and starch products by increasing production by 9,000MT by 2024. This project will engage 1,440 smallholder farmers to expand crop production, implement efficient post-harvest practices and aggregation methods, and establish a cost-effective haulage system.

Golden Agri Inputs Limited (GAIL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc (FMN), is partnering with **USAID** to increase revenue by over 26% by 2024. This effort, supported by a **\$7.5 million investment** from GAIL and a grant from USAID, will directly engage 10,000 farmers to increase commercial production of maize and soybean while building a sustainable local supply chain for Flour Mills of Nigeria PLC's feeds and oil value chain.

Washington D.C.-based nonprofit **Halcyon** and **Amazon Web Services** are partnering to launch a new fellowship directed at early-stage, impact-driven entrepreneurs from Africa. Bolstered by a \$500,000 commitment, the fellowship provides up to 20 entrepreneurs and startups in the agriculture and food technology sector the resources to find solutions for the continent's food security and climate adaptation challenges. Each fellow receives \$25,000 in AWS Cloud Credits, one-on-one technical support from AWS solutions architects, a **\$5,000** travel stipend, and residencies in the U.S. and Africa. The fellowship encourages innovation in solving critical developmental challenges for millions of people in Africa.

Kenya-based agribusiness **Hello Tractor** is partnering with U.S. tractor manufacturer **John Deere** to scale its pay-as-you-go program - financing tractors for more than 623,000 small farmers who use the platform on over 1.7million acres of land. This new **\$5 million** investment is spurring more modernized agriculture practices across the continent. Using tractors, land can be farmed more efficiently and improve the quantity and quality of crops, as farm activities can be completed in a more optimal time frame to raise yields.

MeTL Group is announcing a **\$100 million** anchor commitment towards an African food security fund that will transform agricultural production and capacity in order to tackle chronic hunger, which affects more than 20% of Africa. With interests spanning various industries including agriculture, manufacturing, trading, energy, financial services, and transportation and logistics, MeTL Group is one of East Africa's largest homegrown companies. MeTL has annual revenues north of \$2 billion, employs over 35,000 across the continent and enjoys a regional presence in seven countries. Africa faces severe food insecurity despite being home to a majority of the world's uncultivated, arable land. MeTL has a goal to spur other investors to participate in the fund's billion-dollar target.

U.S. GOVERNMENT

DFC is providing **\$20 million** in financing to **One Acre Fund** to provide financing for fertilizer and other agricultural inputs, aiming to increase farm yields in Sub-Saharan Africa with a strong focus on female farmers. The fund will provide services on credit to approximately 412,000 smallholder farmers (1,648,000 farming household members), including approximately 206,000 female farmers, to increase their harvests. DFC also provided a \$5 million grant to One Acre Fund to support climate adaptation activities for smallholder farmers.

EarthShot Labs, a U.S.-based science and tech company dedicated to global land regeneration, is directing a **\$24.5 million** investment by **Capricorn Investment Group** toward a major reforestation project in Burkina Faso. The project, overseen by **TreeAid**, involves 12,000 hectares of reforested land that has the potential to sequester more than three million tons of carbon in the long term and create development opportunities for local communities. EarthShot already supports reforestation and conservation efforts across more than 15 countries, and by partnering with **Prosper Africa**, can now finance its first project in Africa.

USAID is launching a five-year, **\$42 million** Feed the Future Empowering Agriculture program in Senegal (or Dooleel Mbay in Wolof), which will increase incomes for targeted populations, especially youth and women, through an inclusive and sustainable market systems approach. The program will scale value chain services to expand job opportunities and enterprise development in agriculture. It is expected to benefit 230,000 MSMEs, over half of which will be women; facilitate \$90 million in agriculture lending; and mobilize \$92 million in private sector leverage.

USAID is launching the five-year, **\$38.9 million** Kilimo Tija program in Tanzania, which will sustainably increase economic opportunities in horticulture market systems, especially for young people. The program is expected to leverage more than \$50 million in private investment and will focus on strengthening horticulture market systems to increase enterprise and employment opportunities; increasing access to commercially provided, climate smart, and productivity-enhancing agricultural technologies; and strengthening the enabling environment for market systems.

USAID is partnering with agribusiness and energy firm **AfricaGlobal Schaffer** and infrastructure firm **Bechtel** to increase the supply and quality of maize on the African continent, directly addressing the food crisis resulting from Russia's invasion of Ukraine. In partnership with major Africa agribusiness player ETG for purchasing power, these private sector investments, supported by **\$3 million** from USAID, will build a series of district-level collection centers to aggregate maize from smallholder farmers, supply agro-processing infrastructure, and facilitate purchasing of large volumes. The first phase of seven centers will target high-production areas in Zambia, while a targeted 23 centers built in 24 months would provide an estimated 100,000 metric tons of maize and other crops, incorporate more women smallholder farmers into the value chain, and create a repeatable, scalable model for markets across the continent.

USTDA is funding a feasibility study for Nigeria-based agribusiness, **AA Universal Agro Industries**. The study supports the development of an integrated cocoa and cassava agriculture processing facility. In addition to enhancing the facility's cocoa processing capability to produce higher-value downstream products, the expansion will also add the means to process cassava cultivated by local smallholder farmers into other food staples.

