



PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES IN AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS - (PIAA)



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF GHANA



HIS EXCELLENCY
JOHN DRAMANI MAHAMA
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA



STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BRIEF OF INITIATIVES



Office of the President
Republic of Ghana

May 2025

TABLE OF CONTENT

1.0 About PIAA.....	1
2.0 Strategic Programme Pillars.....	2
3.0 Flagship Programmes and Initiatives.....	4
3.1 Feed Ghana Programme.....	4
3.1.1 Dobidi Initiative.....	4
3.1.2 School Farms Initiative.....	5
3.1.3 Home Gardening & Urban Agriculture Initiative.....	5
3.1.4 Youth Agriculture Estate Initiative.....	6
3.1.5 Youth in Aquaculture Initiative.....	6
3.1.6 Farmers Market Day Initiative.....	6
3.1.7 Poultry and Livestock Training Initiative.....	7
3.1.8 Poultry Farm-to-Table Initiative.....	7
3.1.9 The Sustainable Forest Restoration Initiative (SFRI).....	7
3.2 Feed the Industry Programme.....	8
3.2.1 Youth in Cocoa Farming Initiative.....	8
3.2.2 Cashew Value Chain Development.....	8
3.2.3 Jute Value Chain Initiative.....	9
3.2.4 Cassava Value Chain Initiative.....	9
3.2.5 Red Gold (Palm Oil) Initiative.....	10
3.2.6 Coconut Seedling Distribution.....	10
3.2.7 Shea Sector Development Programme.....	10
3.3. Agriculture Infrastructure Development.....	11
3.3.1 Agro Input Development Initiative.....	11
3.3.2 Livestock Feedmills Initiative.....	11
3.3.3 Agricultural Investment Summits.....	11
4.0 Management Team.....	12

1.0

About PIAA



The Presidential Initiatives in Agriculture and Agribusiness (PIAA) was established by H.E. John Dramani Mahama, at the Office of the President to advance his strategic vision of transforming and modernizing Ghana's agricultural sector.

PIAA is an agricultural and agribusiness project facilitation, coordinating and management unit at the Office of the President,

responsible for driving external funding and private capital investment into agricultural sector to enhance agriculture productivity, create jobs and promote accelerated economic growth.

2.0

Strategic Programme Pillars

The Presidential Initiatives in Agriculture and Agribusiness (PIAA) is designed to drive H.E John Dramani Mahama's vision of agricultural transformation through a three-pillar framework, namely;

Feed Ghana Programme

This pillar focused on improving national food security, boosting household nutrition, increasing productivity of staple crops, and promoting school and community farms. The goal is to prioritize local

production, reduces reliance on food imports and ensure every household has access to affordable and nutritious food.



Feed the Industry Programme

Agriculture is positioned as a driver of industrialization under this pillar.

It develops strong linkages between farmers and industries by supporting value chains for agro-processing and exports.

The programme would ensure reliable raw material supply for factories, enhances agro-exports, and creates jobs in processing, packaging, and distribution.

This pillar also promotes innovation and partnerships with private sector players to strengthen Ghana's competitiveness in regional and global markets.

Agriculture Infrastructure Development

Sustainable agriculture requires strong infrastructure. This pillar provides the backbone by investing in irrigation systems, warehouses, input production facilities, mechanization centers, rural roads, and digital logistics solutions.

It also improves access to finance, enabling farmers and agribusinesses to expand operations.

This pillar is expected to lay a firm foundation for modern, resilient, and inclusive agricultural growth.



3.0

Flagship Programmes and Initiatives



3.1 Feed Ghana Programme



3.1.1 Dobidi Initiative:

Is an Integrated Outgrower Scheme aimed at supporting smallholder farmers in Ghana through a coordinated input supply initiative, extension and technical services, market linkage, and post-harvest management.

It aims support over 30,000 smallholder farmers with quality inputs and technical services to

cultivate 50,000 acres of maize, 10,000 acres of rice and 5,000 acres of soya beans to enhance national food security and animal feed supply.

The Initiative would be powered by the Dobidi Agro-Input Credit and Farmer Financing Platform (DACFIP), an end-to-end technology

that will bridge the financing gap for our hardworking farmers. DACFIP would leverage digital innovation to enable efficient, transparent, and inclusive access to affordable finance across the agricultural value chain

3.1.2 School Farms Initiative

This initiative aims to establish thriving farms in Senior High Schools and school gardens in basic schools across Ghana, transforming them into dynamic hubs for experiential learning, sustainable agriculture, and food resilience. The initiative is expected to cultivate 15,000 acres in over 700 school-based farms dedicated to cultivating seven key crops identified under the Feed Ghana programme—maize, rice, soybean, sorghum, tomato, onion and pepper. The initiative seeks to reduce government expenditure on school feeding by producing food locally while equipping students with hands-on agricultural skills through practical training.



3.1.3 Home Gardening & Urban Agriculture Initiative

Food security challenges are not only rural - they are also urban. With rising food prices in Ghana's cities, limited access to fresh produce, and growing nutritional deficiencies, households are increasingly vulnerable. The Home Gardening & Urban Agriculture Initiative is designed to directly address these issues by empowering urban and peri-urban communities to produce part of their own food sustainably. The initiative will equip 1 million households with garden kits and training to boost home food production, improve nutrition, and reduce urban food costs.

3.1.4 Youth Agriculture Estate Initiative

The Youth in Agriculture Estate Initiative (YAEP) is a nationwide program designed to provide structured, salaried employment for 16,000 young people in commercial agriculture. It targets youth aged 15 to 35 and aims to make farming a more attractive and reliable career option. They will receive training, access to modern machinery, and learn sustainable farming practices while earning regular income. The focus will be on cultivating key food crops such as maize, rice, soybean, sorghum, tomato, onion and pepper to enhance food security and reduce the country's dependency on imports. The initiative will cover over 100,000 acres of land and will be implemented in phases over four years.



3.1.5 Youth in Aquaculture Initiative

This initiative seeks to harness the potential of aquaculture as a sustainable source of employment and economic empowerment for Ghana's youth. Through initiative, over 1,000 young people will be equipped to establish and manage fish farms across the country. The program will cover key areas such as pond construction, hatchery management, feed formulation, and fish health management. The initiative aims to catalyze the creation of at least 10,000 direct and indirect jobs over the next four years. Additionally, it will contribute to national food security, reduce the fish import bill, and support the growth of the domestic aquaculture industry.

3.1.6 Farmers Market Day Initiative

The Farmers Market Day Initiative is an initiative designed to create structured market platforms for farmers to directly sell their produce to consumers, institutions, and agribusinesses. The initiative seeks to provide market access, reduce post-harvest losses, ensure fair pricing for farmers, promote local food consumption, and strengthen Ghana's food systems and enhance rural-urban market linkages.



3.1.7 Poultry and Livestock Training Initiative

The Poultry and Livestock Training Initiative is a strategic capacity-building program aimed at equipping 20,000 young people, smallholder farmers, and aspiring agripreneurs with practical skills and knowledge in poultry and livestock production. The initiative is being implemented in partnership with the CSIR-Animal Research Institute and FEEDICO Ghana, leveraging their technical expertise and industry experience to deliver high-impact training.



3.1.8 Poultry Farm-to-Table Initiative

This initiative aims to revive the domestic poultry industry by boosting local production, reducing imports, and enhancing food security. The initiative supports farmers with access to credit, affordable feed, training, and improved broiler breeds. It focuses on empowering youth and women, engaging households in broiler production, and linking producers directly to consumers to ensure affordable, locally sourced poultry across the country.



3.1.9 The Forest Restoration Initiative (FRI)

The initiative aims to restore degraded forest landscapes in Ghana's Ashanti, Bono, Ahafo, and Eastern Regions by combining reforestation with climate-smart agriculture. Led by the Forestry Commission and the Presidential Initiatives in Agriculture and Agribusiness, the project uses the Modified Taungya System and Community Resource Management Areas to empower local communities, promote tree planting, and support alternative livelihoods. With a \$5.3 million budget over four years, FRI seeks to enhance forest cover, improve rural incomes, and strengthen sustainable land governance.



3.2 Feed The Industry Programme

3.2.1 Youth in Cocoa Farming Initiative

The Youth in Cocoa Farming Initiative aims to engage 20,000 young people across Ghana's cocoa-growing regions to cultivate 100,000 hectares of cocoa farmland, with a target of increasing the country's annual cocoa yield. This initiative is designed to rejuvenate the cocoa sector by attracting and retaining youth in commercial cocoa farming, while also addressing unemployment and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the industry.

The overarching goal is to incentivize youth participation in cocoa farming by creating viable employment opportunities and strengthening their commitment to agriculture as a business.



3.2.2 Cashew Value Chain Development

The Cashew Value Chain Development Initiative is designed to enhance the productivity, value addition, and competitiveness of Ghana's cashew sector. With national production currently exceeding 246,000 metric tonnes, the initiative aims to transform cashew from a largely raw export commodity into a fully integrated value chain that supports rural livelihoods, stimulates agro-industrial growth, and contributes meaningfully to Ghana's non-traditional export earnings.

The initiative focuses on three core pillars: improving farm-level productivity, strengthening domestic processing capacity, and expanding market access for cashew and cashew-derived products.

3.2.3 Jute Value Chain Initiative

The Jute Value Chain Initiative is a strategic intervention focused on promoting large-scale cultivation of kenaf, a fast-growing fibrous plant, to support the local production of jute sacks and significantly reduce Ghana's heavy dependence on imported packaging materials. Currently, the country imports over 60 million jute sacks annually, primarily for the storage and export of key commodities such as cocoa, cashew, and grains. This initiative seeks to reverse that trend by developing a homegrown kenaf industry capable of sustainably supplying domestic jute-processing factories.

The initiative will drive kenaf cultivation across suitable agro-ecological zones, particularly in the northern, transitional, and parts of the Volta regions, by supporting both smallholder and commercial farmers with improved kenaf seed varieties, agronomic training, and access to inputs. It also aims to revive and expand the capacity of local jute-processing companies.



3.2.4 Cassava Value Chain Initiative

The Cassava Value Chain Initiative is a national program aimed at enhancing industrial cassava production and processing to improve livelihoods, strengthen food security, and support local manufacturing. The project seeks to boost cassava yields from 23.7MT/ha to 45MT/ha by promoting the adoption of high-yielding industrial cassava varieties, building farmer capacity, and establishing commercial production systems. It targets both smallholder and commercial farmers, with interventions across the full value chain—from planting material multiplication to processing and market access. Key objectives include supporting the establishment of mini- and large-scale processing plants, expanding commercial cassava fields by 100,000 hectares, and increasing farmer incomes through better productivity and market linkages.





3.2.5 Red Gold (Palm Oil) Initiative

This initiative aims to significantly boost domestic palm oil production by expanding cultivation by 50,000 hectares across suitable agro-ecological zones. It will address the current shortfall of 150,000 metric tonnes as well as reduce the over reliance on palm oil imports, stabilize local prices, and ensure a steady supply of raw materials for local processors. It is also expected to create thousands of jobs across the value chain — from farming and harvesting to processing and distribution.

3.2.6 Coconut Seedling Distribution

The Coconut Seedling Distribution Initiative, implemented in partnership with the Coconut Federation, Ghana is aimed at boosting Ghana's coconut production by distributing 3 million high-yielding, disease-resistant seedlings to farmers across key coconut-growing regions. This initiative will support the cultivation of 18,750 hectares of new coconut plantations, with the goal of increasing national production by 120,000 metric tonnes. It is a targeted response to growing local and international demand for coconut and its by-products, and it aligns with efforts to diversify Ghana's agricultural exports, improve rural livelihoods, and create sustainable jobs.

Beyond seedling distribution, the initiative includes technical support and capacity building to ensure farmers adopt best agronomic practices. Extension services will assist with proper farm establishment, maintenance, and harvesting.



3.2.7 Shea Sector Development Programme

This Programme seeks to harness the vast economic and social potential of Ghana's shea sector. It focuses on improving the productivity, processing, and commercial value of shea through targeted support for women-led cooperatives, modernized processing centers, and sustainable harvesting practices. It aims to increase local value addition, stimulate rural job creation, and position Ghana as a competitive player in the global shea market.

3.3 Agriculture Infrastructure Development

3.3.1 Agro Input Development Initiative

This initiative aims to localize the production of critical agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, and improved seeds.

Currently, Ghana depends on imports for over 95% of its agricultural inputs, exposing the sector to supply chain disruptions and high costs. It is expected that the initiative will enhance self-sufficiency, stabilize prices, and ensure timely availability of high-quality inputs to farmers nationwide.

3.3.2 Livestock Feedmills Initiative

To address the high cost of animal feed, which is a major constraint in the livestock sector, this initiative will establish 180 mini-feed mills across the country. The feed mills are expected to reduce production costs, improve livestock productivity, and create jobs along the feed value chain. The availability of affordable, locally produced feed will also encourage more investments in poultry, piggery, aquaculture, and other livestock enterprises.

3.3.3 Agricultural Investment Summits

This initiative provides a national platform for linking agribusinesses with sustainable financing opportunities. The summits will bring together farmers, agripreneurs, investors, financial institutions, and policymakers to discuss investment opportunities and introduce de-risking mechanisms such as agricultural insurance and guarantee schemes. This is expected to unlock private capital into agriculture, expand agribusiness operations, and accelerate the modernization of Ghana's agricultural sector.



4.0

Management Team



Dr. Peter Boamah Otokunor
Director



Gilbert Ibrahim
Administrator



Emmanuel Owusu
Programmes Coordinator



Dr. Selorm Ayeduvor
Technical Coordinator



Dr. Amy Atiwoto
Technical Officer









Contact Information

Presidential Initiatives in Agriculture and Agribusiness (PIAA)

Office of the President – Republic of Ghana

Tel: 030 395 5839

Email: piaa.presidencygh@gmail.com

website: <https://piaa.gov.gh>

