KIC YOUNG AGRIPRENEUR

Apr-Jun 2024

Quarterly Newsletter

KOSMOS INNOVATION CENTER

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE, ONE ENTREPRENEUR AT A TIME

Message from Executive Director



Dear Partners and Stakeholders,

We are pleased to share with you the highlights of our activities for the second quarter of 2024.

We successfully organized the final pitch for the AgriTech Challenge Pro, where winning teams were onboarded into our Business Accelerator Program under the Business Incubation initiative. These promising teams are now poised to take their innovative solutions to the next level with our comprehensive support and mentorship.

Through KIC's Business Booster program, we have developed robust entrepreneurship training and capacity-building initiatives for Agri-MSMEs and Farmer-Based Organizations. This year's Booster program participants are gaining essential skills and knowledge to enhance their business operations and drive sustainable growth in the agricultural sector.

KIC remains dedicated to supporting women empowerment in agricultural communities. We have placed a strong emphasis on skills training in entrepreneurship, enabling young women and women groups to secure decent livelihoods as agripreneurs. These efforts are helping to build a more inclusive and prosperous agricultural economy.

We are excited to announce the introduction of a new program to support primary agricultural production. In collaboration with partnering universities and colleges, the Young Farmers Business Academy (YFBA) aims to provide employment opportunities for young people both within the educational sector and at the community level in the informal sector. This initiative is designed to cultivate the next generation of agricultural leaders and innovators.

To raise awareness and change mindsets about agriculture among young people, KIC has commenced this year's School Farm Competition. The competition includes comprehensive training sessions and engagement with schools on best farm practices. The ongoing competition is fostering a love for agriculture and practical skills among students.

As part of our commitment to environmental sustainability, KIC, along with our partners, is proud to showcase the contributions of KIC Start-ups in safeguarding the environment. These start-ups are developing eco-friendly solutions connected to the agricultural value chain, demonstrating that innovation and sustainability can go hand-in-hand.

We hope you enjoy reading about our efforts and achievements. Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Wishing you a pleasant read.

Benjamin Gyan-Kesse

Kosmos Innovation Center and Mastercard Foundation announce winners of 2024 AgriTech Challenge Pro



Kosmos Innovation Center (KIC) and Mastercard Foundation announced the winners of the 2024 AgriTech Challenge Pro in May 2024. Through this year's AgriTech Challenge Pro, KIC and Mastercard Foundation have highlighted their commitment to develop the next generation of young Ghanaian entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector, with job readiness skills, for fulfilling and dignified work opportunities. In attendance at the event were Mr. Benjmain Gyan-Kesse, the KIC Executive Director, Mr. George Sarpong, Board Member for KIC, representatives of the Mastercard Foundation as well as stakeholders from the youth development and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

The winners were announced after a successful pitch competition held in Accra on from the 16th to 17th May 2024, where 35 teams presented their business pitch decks to a panel of judges. At the end of the competition 23 teams received seed funding support to scale up and grow their business innovations. The participating universities for this year's Challenge include University of Ghana (UG), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), University of Cape Coast (UCC), Bolgatanga Technical University (BTU), Takoradi Technical University (TTU), Ho Technical University (HTU), Koforidua Technical University (KTU), University of Development Studies (UDS), SD Dombo University of Business & Integrated Development Studies (UBIDS), and University of Energy and Natural Resource (UENR).

The Agri Tech Pro teams showcased their business ideas from product and service delivery for sustainable production, to technological application, value addition, and eco-friendly packaging. The ideas from these young people are contributing to environmental responsibility and reducing the impact of agricultural activities on the environment.

The winning teams for the 10,000 USD Category include Aretha Forson (Takoradi Technical University); Bunny Bites (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology); Cas-Tech (Takoradi Technical University); DeliMush (University for Development Studies); Ghana Fert (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology); GreenHeart SE (Koforidua Technical University); Healthy Farmer (University for Development Studies); PaCo Paper (Koforidua Technical University); Rabitton (University of Cape-Coast); Rijona Biochemicals (University for Development Studies).
The following teams won USD15,000 each Agro KiniSols (Bolgatanga Technical University) and FreshLine Post-Harvest Solutions (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology).

In addition, USD,20,000 each was awarded to following start-ups: DEECOM Nutrifoods (Ho Technical University); Hullsnovation (University for Development Studies); Sunray (University for Business and Integrated Development Studies); Tekcycle (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology); FEEP Fibertech (University of Energy and Natural Resources); and Harvest Ease Innovations (University of Energy and Natural Resources).

3 Farmate Robotics (University of Ghana); Green Husk Innovations (University for Development studies); Sunify Solardry Technology (University for Development Studies) each won USD30,000 while McHan Cosmetics (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology) and YARP Foods (University of Energy and Natural Resources) each was awarded USD35,000.

Speaking at the event, the Executive Director of Kosmos Innovation Center, Benjamin Gyan-Kesse, underscored the relevance of the competition in nurturing young entrepreneurs for the agricultural ecosystem. "Since its inception, the KIC AgriTech Challenge Pro has played a major role in shaping the mindset of young people about agriculture. Every year, we focus on building viable businesses that have the potential to create economic empowerment for young people. KIC also provides the requisite training, tools, network, and resources to help these businesses thrive and grow", said Benjamin Gyan-Kesse.

Mr. Gyan-Kesse reiterated the commitment of KIC and its partners to supporting initiatives geared towards unlocking the potential of youth to contribute to national development by leveraging on agriculture.

In his remarks, Mr. Gottfried Odamtten-Sowah, Head of Entrepreneurship at the Mastercard Foundation noted that collaboration and innovation in building the next generation of players for the agricultural sector are key to driving change and fostering growth in the nation's agricultural space.
"We believe in supporting young people to find dignified and fulfilling work by nurturing innovation, fostering entrepreneurship, and providing opportunities for skill development for young people we achieve this ," he added.

KIC remains committed to transforming the lives of young people by providing them with capacity building and funding support to scale up their business.

KIC organises Business Validation Trips for KIC start-ups in the AgriTech Challenge Pro

The KIC Team organised validation trips to 35 Agritech Start-ups participating in the 2024 AgriTech Challenge Pro. KIC teams were accompanied by Faculty Advisors, Technical Officers and Program Officers assigned to the respective universities to support the businesses. During the trips to the various production sites, the teams had the chance to see the different primary users of the tech innovations from the start-ups. There were also interactions with smallholder farmers from whom the businesses source some of their raw materials.

Speaking about the impact of the experience on the field, KIC's Executive Director, Mr. Benjamin Gyan- Kesse, highlighted the transformation that the businesses had gone through showing evidence also of the use of the traction funds received from KIC. "At KIC, we are concerned about the start-up's profitability and scalability, but we are also concerned about their support to other actors along the entire value chain, and this includes smallholder farmers," he said.

As part of the product and service development for these businesses, each business received USD2000 each from KIC. Some businesses had obtained business registrations or were far advanced for other regulatory certificates from FDA and GSA. Some of the businesses had also partnered with organisations such as Center for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), local departments of Agriculture, Municipal Assemblies, Environmental Protection Agency, Farmer Based Organisations, local groceries, as well as other companies within the agricultural value chain for their raw materials.

The businesses have started piloting some of the products and have received feedback that helps them to embed into the iterative product development process.

These business validation trips help crystallize the solutions the startups are working on, and for the KIC and its partners to see beyond the business pitches. The trips involve the kind of due diligence which ensures the startups are prepared for investors," said Ato Ulzen-Appiah, Entrepreneurship Development Specialist at KIC.

Kosmos Innovation Center and Partners host successful pitch competition for AgriBiz Build -up and Sprint Programs

The Kosmos Innovation Center (KIC), in collaboration with the USAID's Feed the Future Market Systems and Resilience (MSR) Activity organised the Final Pitch Competition, Investor Day, and Market Day Celebrations for the Agri-Biz Build-Up and Sprint programs. The event brought together key stakeholders, industry experts, investors, and dynamic individuals from across northern Ghana.





Since 2023, as part of a consortium, KIC has been actively involved in implementing the Feed the Future Ghana Market Systems and Resilience Activity across sixteen Zones of Influence in Northern Ghana. Through capacity building, investor preparedness coaching, and mentorship, the MSR Program has empowered 27 Micro, Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (MSMEs) and 36 teams of young individuals, including women, with economically viable business solutions. These initiatives aim to foster innovation and entrepreneurship among Ghanaian youth while addressing critical challenges within the agricultural value chain.

Participants showcased their innovative business ideas to a panel of esteemed judges, consisting of industry experts, investors, and seasoned entrepreneurs. The competition provided a platform for young entrepreneurs to transform their agricultural aspirations into tangible ventures, contributing to the sustainable development of northern Ghana's agricultural sector. The Executive Director of Kosmos Innovation Center, Mr. Benjamin Gyan-Kesse, Executive Director praised the dedication and hard work of all participants, coaches, and ideation teams, reaffirming KIC's commitment to nurturing the next generation of agricultural leaders and change-makers.

Mr. Cecil Osei, Deputy Chief of Party at MSR, encouraged young people to seize the opportunities provided by the program, emphasizing MSR's commitment to inclusive economic growth and market linkages for youth, women, and marginalized groups. The MSR project aims to enhance commercial relationships between actors, strengthen the rural entrepreneurship ecosystem, expand agribusiness services availability, and improve local economic governance through targeted policy initiatives. Winners of the Pitch Competition will be awarded as well as gain access to KIC's extensive network of partners and collaborators.



School Farm Competition commences with trainings and school monitoring visits

The 2024 School Farm Competition commenced with trainer of trainers workshops across the country for schools participating in the competition. From April 2024 schools were trained on the modalities for the competition including land preparation, nursing of seeds, transplanting, pest control, chemical applications, appropriate usage of PPEs and harvesting.



These sessions covered a wide array of topics essential for successful farming. The participants were introduced to the modalities of the competition, which included detailed instructions on land preparation techniques to ensure optimal soil conditions for planting. They were also taught the intricacies of nursing seeds, emphasizing the importance of proper seed handling and care to achieve healthy seedlings. The training continued with practical guidance on transplanting seedlings to the fields. Participants learned about pest control methods, focusing on both organic and chemical solutions to protect their crops. Chemical applications were discussed in detail, highlighting the correct usage and dosage to avoid crop damage and environmental harm.

A critical component of the training was the emphasis on appropriate usage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Teachers were educated on the importance of PPEs. The final part of the training covered the harvesting process, teaching participants the best practices for gathering mature crops efficiently and effectively.

From May to June 2024, the participating schools across the country have gone ahead with their land preparation and nursing of seeds for horticulture including okra, garden eggs, habanero pepper, among others.

This year more than 500 schools are participating in the school farm competition. Through the School Farm Competition, KIC aims to change the mindset of young people about opportunities within the agricultural sector.





KIC and Mastercard Foundation provide skills training in Entrepreneurship for Women Groups across the country

KIC, in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, has initiated a comprehensive series of skills training programs in entrepreneurship for women groups across selected farming communities in the Northern Regions. With plans to expand these training sessions to other parts of the country, KIC aims to empower women and youth-focused groups by equipping them with vital entrepreneurial skills.

The training sessions target a diverse range of women groups, including farmer associations, youth, and adolescent groups. These sessions are designed to provide practical, hands-on training that can directly enhance the participants' ability to generate income and support their families as entrepreneurs within the agricultural value chain.

In the northern sector, the focus of the training was on the processing of groundnuts into coated groundnut roast chips in some communities. This specific skill was chosen due to its high market demand and potential for profitability. The women were taught coating methods, and packaging. Participants were also supported to establish VSLA groups.

One of the standout participants of this training was Dorcas Mdegu, a 32-year-old woman living with a disability who uses support for mobility. Despite her challenges, Dorcas demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination throughout the training. She successfully acquired new skills that have enabled her to start producing and selling groundnut roast chips.

Dorcas's story is a testament to the transformative power of these training sessions. With her newfound skills, she has not only been able to generate income to support her family but has also created employment opportunities for other women in her community. Her groundnut chips enterprise has become a source of inspiration and economic empowerment for many. KIC's commitment to enabling opportunities for women and youth-focused groups is unwavering. By providing these entrepreneurial skills training programs, KIC aims to build the capacity of women to manage and grow their own businesses, thereby fostering economic independence and community development.

These initiatives are part of a broader strategy to enhance the entrepreneurial capabilities of women and youth, ensuring they have the tools and knowledge needed to succeed in their ventures. The partnership with the Mastercard Foundation underscores the shared vision of both organizations to drive inclusive growth and development for young people, and particularly for women. Through these targeted training programs, KIC and the Mastercard Foundation are making significant strides in empowering women groups in farming communities. The skills acquired through these trainings are not only improving individual livelihoods but also contributing to the overall economic development of the regions involved. As these programs expand, the ripple effect of empowerment and entrepreneurship is expected to reach even more communities, fostering a culture of self-reliance and economic resilience.





Visit of Mastercard Foundation Innovations Team to KIC

The Mastercard Foundation's Innovation's team paid a courtesy call to Kosmos Innovation Center as part of a familiarization visit on 27th May 2024. During the visit the team interacted with 3 of KIC supported businesses including Grow for Me, Aquamet Technologies and 3 Farm Robotics, who shared on their agritech innovations and applied technology being used to support agricultural value chains, commodity trading and aquaculture.



KIC and Mastercard Foundation Launch New Program to Empower Youth in Commercial Farming

KIC, in collaboration with the Mastercard Foundation, has announced an exciting new initiative called the Young Farmers Business Academy (YFBA). This program aims to engage young people interested in commercial farming, offering them the tools and knowledge to establish successful agribusinesses. The YFBA is designed to provide significant employment opportunities for youth, addressing the need for innovative approaches in the agricultural sector. The YFBA is a comprehensive 4 to 7-month program that targets young individuals keen on starting their own agribusiness ventures. Participants will benefit from a robust system of training, workshops, and hands-on experience. The program emphasizes practical sessions, field demonstrations, coaching and mentorship, encouraging participants to explore agri-production and its related sectors for potential business opportunities.

Benjamin Gyan-Kesse, Executive Director for KIC, highlighted the program's potential impact: "The Young Farmer Business Academy will introduce young people to applied technology to improve production. By leveraging innovative commercial farming techniques, we aim to revolutionize the way young farmers approach agriculture."

The YFBA will be implemented in partnership with KIC's partners from academic institutions, providing a collaborative environment for learning and development. Participants will gain exposure to a variety of modern farming practices and technologies. These include precision agriculture utilizing data and technology to optimize crop yields and resource usage. Participants will be exposed to the use of modern implements and equipment, such as modern planters to enhance farming efficiency. Also technologies for Soil Testing and Assessment will be used to for soil analyses to determine optimal crop selection and appropriate chemical and fertilizer application. The participants will also be exposed to Vertical Farming, for exploring space-efficient farming methods that maximize crop production. The program component will also involve Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology to support the integration of cutting-edge scientific advancements to improve crop resilience and yield.

Through the YFBA, KIC and its partner institutions aim to inspire a new generation of farmers who are equipped with the knowledge and skills to drive innovation in agriculture. The program not only seeks to transform participants' perspectives on farming but also to foster sustainable agricultural practices that can contribute to broader economic growth.



Towards a Sustainable Future: How some KIC start-ups are championing eco-friendly innovations

As the world faces the escalating threats of climate change, the call for innovative solutions and decisive action grows louder. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global temperatures have risen by approximately 1.2°C since pre-industrial times, with devastating impacts on weather patterns, sea levels, and biodiversity.

Closer to home, Ghana has experienced a 1°C rise in average temperatures over the past 15 years, contributing to more frequent and severe floods. These alarming statistics underscore the urgent need for robust climate action and sustainable development. As the world grapples with the pressing challenges of climate change and environmental degradation, some players in the agricultural space are stepping up to play a crucial role in driving sustainable innovation and climate action.

Through pioneering sustainable technologies these businesses are not only mitigating their environmental impact but also setting new benchmarks. Interestingly, some agricultural startups that participated in the AgriTech Challenge Pro for 2024 under the Kosmos Innovation Center (KIC) have developed eco-friendly solutions that are safeguarding the environment.

Among the many trailblazers, GreenHeart SE (Koforidua Technical University) is another force to reckon with in the area of sustainable innovation and climate action. Transforming organic biomass waste into carbon negative agricultural inputs, GreenHeart SE pioneers offer sustainable solutions for a greener tomorrow. With a commitment to environmental stewardship, the transformative power of biochar is harnessed to revolutionize agriculture and beyond. From innovative biochar-based fertilizers to animal feed enhancers and wood vinegar, a host of eco-friendly products are manufactured to nourish soils and animals, boost yields, and promote healthier ecosystems. Gradually, GreenHeart SE is leading the charge towards a world where environmental harmony and agricultural prosperity go hand in hand. According to the Organisation for Economic Corporation and Development (OECD), the production, conversion and waste management of plastics generate about 4% of total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

For FreshLine Post Harvest Solutions (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology) an Agri-food start-up, championing zero production waste, mitigating excessive farm-level losses and promoting traditional food systems will help promote environmental sustainability. The team focuses on efficient farm-to-fork solutions, leveraging climate smart technologies and localized user-friendly solutions to bring impactful post-harvest intervention to small holder horticultural farmers in Ghana, contributing to food security, reducing farm level losses and fostering sustainable food production and consumptions.

Greenhusk Innovations, (University for Development Studies) produces paper using corn husks thereby channeling a by-product of agriculture into solving a major global concern. Commenting on these initiatives, Executive Director of KIC Benjamin Gyan-Kesse called for continued investment in sustainable technologies to safeguard the environment.

“By investing in sustainable technologies within the agricultural value chain, we’re not only protecting our environment, but also driving economic growth for young people. It is our responsibility to innovate for a greener, more sustainable world for generations to come,” he said.



KIC organises Staff Media Training

From May 30th to 31st, 2024, KIC organized an extensive Media Training for its staff. The two-day event aimed to enhance the media relations skills of staff members and improve their confidence in engaging with the media, in efforts to expand communications on KIC's impact and transformational journey.

The trainings were designed to cover a wide range of essential topics. Participants were first introduced to the Understanding Media Landscape module, where they learned about the various types of media outlets, the dynamics of the media industry, and the importance of media in shaping public perception.

Next, the staff delved into Media Interview Preparation. This session equipped them with practical skills and strategies to effectively prepare for media interviews. They learned how to anticipate questions, develop concise and impactful responses, and manage challenging interview scenarios. Role-playing exercises allowed participants to practice these skills.

The training also emphasized the development of Key Messages. In this session, staff members were guided on how to craft clear, consistent, and compelling messages that align with KIC's objectives and values. They explored techniques for staying on message and bridging back to key points during interviews.

The media training forms part of efforts by KIC to strengthen its public presence and effectively communicate its mission and achievements to a broader audience.



2024 KIC AgricTech Challenge classic commences



KIC has commenced the 2024 AgriTech Challenge Classic program with orientation programs to onboard the students joining the program this year across all 16 regions of the country from June to July 2024.

The AgriTech Challenge Classic is a 7-month annual training program aimed at developing the interest and building the mindset of students and young graduates to ultimately drive systemic change in Ghana's agriculture sector. It provides the youth with the right exposure to the agriculture value chain, and networking opportunity to build and grow viable solutions to Ghana's key agricultural challenges. The KIC AgriTech Challenge Classic 2024 is set to be a transformative experience for all involved, fostering a new generation of agricultural entrepreneurs equipped with the skills, knowledge, and resources to succeed. Through the AgriTech Challenge, more than 3.500 young people have been trained. Working in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, KIC is committed to supporting young people with entrepreneurial capacity building to gain access to employment and work-readiness skills.

The 16 participating universities and colleges include University of Ghana (UG), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), University of Cape Coast (UCC), Bolgatanga Technical University (BTU), Takoradi Technical University (TTU), Ho Technical University (HTU), Koforidua Technical University (KTU), University of Development Studies (UDS), SD Dombo University of Business & Integrated Development Studies (UBIDS), and University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR); C. K. Tedam University of Technology and Applied Sciences; Akenten Appiah-Menka University of Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development; Damongo Agricultural College; Kwadaso Agricultural College; Ejura Agric College and Mechanization Center and Ohawu Agricultural College.

Speaking about the impact of KIC's approach to youth employment and skills development, Benjamin Gyan-Kesse, Executive Director for KIC said: "Through the AgriTech Challenge program, KIC has trained many young people to unearth their entrepreneurial ideas. We are committed to providing capacity building to empower young people to develop innovations that transform the agricultural sector."

The AgriTech program involves coaching, market research tours, trainings by industry experts. Speaking about the expectations from participants to this year's program, Ato Ulzen-Appiah, Entrepreneurship Development Specialist for KIC said: "Through this year's challenge, we are looking forward to investing in the growth and development of young entrepreneurs to promote sustainable agricultural development."

Across the country, more than 3200 young people are expected to participate in the competition.









KIC and Mastercard Foundation build the capacity of agri-MSMEs and Farmer Based organisations

KIC and Mastercard Foundation are organizing a series of Bootcamp trainings as part of its Business Booster Program. Agri-MSMEs and Farmer Based Organizations are receiving capacity building on enhancing their business to increase profitability and investor readiness as well as organizational strengthening for selected Farmer Based Organizations to effectively work with their association members. Through a joint partnership, KIC and the Mastercard Foundation are enhancing work-readiness and employability skills among young individuals, steering them toward dignified and fulfilling career paths in entrepreneurship.

Through the support of business and development experts, the Agri-MSMEs and Farmer Based Organizations receive coaching on their business records management, operational efficiency, financial management, investor readiness checklist and business pitch decks. In addition, the participants were taken through topics such as Business Strategy and Access to Market. For the farmer-based organizations, topics such as association membership management, good agricultural practices and enhancing the efficiencies of various agricultural value-chains were provided by the experts. The experiential nature of the training enables the entrepreneurs to identify areas of improvement on best practices for business management. There was also experience and knowledge sharing among the participants.

Through KIC support to the Agri-MSMEs and Farmer Based Organizations, they have been able to create additional jobs in the communities they operate in. On average, each KIC booster business has created 2 additional job opportunities over a five-month period since joining the program and this is expected to grow.

Speaking at the training, Terence Tienaah, Program Manager for KIC reiterated KIC's commitment to supporting Agri-MSMEs and FBOs to achieve long-term business growth. " At KIC, through programs like the Business Booster, we provide coaching and information to support your business growth journey."

In his remarks, Frederick Odame Phillips, Agribusiness Specialist for KIC said: "There are many opportunities within the agricultural value chain, and through the Business Booster Program, we are looking forward to providing you with the tools and resources to build upon your businesses".

Since its inception, the KIC Business Booster has trained more than 127 AgriMSMEs, out of which 72 are women led businesses.

This year, more than 500 agri-MSMEs and FBOs are taking part in the Business Booster program across the country.













2024 KIC Incubation program commences for AgriTech Challenge Pro winners

23 winners from the recently held 2024 AgriTech Challenge Pro have commenced the KIC Business Incubation Program, a two-year program that supports start-ups to strengthen their structures, grow, scale up and become investor ready. The businesses focus on eco-friendly solutions, applied technology that supports agricultural production, value addition, processing, post-harvest storage and marketing, as well as other sectors that are critical for the agricultural value chain.

At a virtual onboarding session for the participating start-ups, Kamil Nabong, Portfolio Manager at KIC, highlighted the significant benefits awaiting the businesses. He emphasized the importance of the coaching and funding support that the program provides, including access to shared working spaces and offices designed to foster team collaboration and innovation. The incubation period is structured to offer comprehensive support to the businesses. This includes establishing robust corporate governance structures and providing essential business management services, all aimed at helping the start-ups scale up and become investor ready.

KIC Executive Director, Benjamin Gyan-Kesse, addressed the participants at the beginning of their training, underscoring the value of the incubation program in facilitating business growth. He reiterated KIC's commitment to nurturing start-up businesses and helping them thrive in the competitive agricultural sector.

A notable highlight of the program is the financial support provided through KIC's partnership with the Mastercard Foundation. This collaboration ensures that the participating businesses have the necessary funding support to develop their innovative solutions into viable businesses to promote employment opportunities.

As part of the program, some KIC Businesses who have been through the incubation program were invited to share their experience with the newly incubated businesses. Dennis Asiedu Ababio, CEO of Agro Empire highlighted the need for teamwork, continued alignment on business strategy and focusing on taking active part in the marketplace by bringing products and services to the intended consumers. On his part, CEO of Complete Farmer Desmond Koney provided insights on navigating the entrepreneurship terrain and resolving some of the challenges that start-up businesses face.

The start-ups represent a diverse array of innovative ideas aimed at transforming the agricultural landscape. With comprehensive support from KIC and the Mastercard Foundation, these businesses are poised to make significant strides in the industry. With the onboarding of the new start-ups from the just ended KIC Pro, there are currently 57 KIC supported businesses.

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