## TOWARDS A HEALTHY PLANET

GrainPro's 2021 Impact Report December 2021



### TABLE OF CONTENTS

| #5 GENDER EQUALITY          | _ 11 |
|-----------------------------|------|
| #12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION | _12  |
| #13 CLIMATE ACTION          | _ 13 |



### WE ARE GRAINPRO

Since our foundation in 1992, we have been committed to sustainably reduce world hunger and poverty, by developing ultra-hermetic technology that is affordable for all farmers, protecting against post-harvest losses, and ensuring the healthiness and superior quality of their food and cash crops.

### GRAINPRO IMPACTS FIVE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG'S):





NO POVFRTY

### END POVERTY

### **UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 1: END POVERTY**

One in ten people in the world lives in extreme poverty today, and the COVID-19 pandemic could result in global poverty increasing for the first time in three decades. GrainPro is committed to fighting poverty, empowering farmers with even the smallest plots of land to be a part of large-scale global change.

### KWALE COUNTY, KENYA

It is often said, "The best things come to those who wait" and for years, farmer Swaleh Juma Rashid whole-heartedly believed in those words. The problem was, he could not live by those words, because the smallholder farmer did not have the luxury of waiting.

Swaleh grows bananas, maize, and green grams to support his wife and four children. So much relies upon the price he gets when he sells his crops. Swaleh knew storing his grain too long caused infestation and post-harvest loss. Preserving the grain with chemicals cut into his profits and crop quality. Swaleh felt he had no choice but to sell soon after harvest, at often-lower prices

That all changed when Swaleh received GrainPro hermetic bags as part of the Kenya Cereal Enhancement Programme (KCEP-CRAL). Eight months later, Swaleh says he sold his maize for double the price he would have received immediately after harvest.



"It was like a miracle," Swaleh says. Changing his grain storage methods erased 100 kilograms of post-harvest loss. He sold extra grain and bought six cows. His family has more milk and meat to eat and the grain they use is healthier. Swaleh's family has money to buy a television, expand their house, and provide more for the children.

Swaleh now urges his neighbors to use GrainPro hermetic bags. He believes more good things are in store for his community as they have gained the ability to wait.



# POVERTY

### **PHILIPPINES**

In the Upland Areas of the Philippines, getting from one point to another often requires a very real balancing act. Farmers rely on two-wheeled motorcycles called habal-habal to get their crops to a mill and to market. Rice, coconut, and banana farmer Ms. Oliviana Yama says that road to market requires a balancing act even more precarious than the motorcycle journey.

Oliviana explains the challenge this way: farmers pay to get their crops to the mill. There, they pay for drying and an additional milling fee before they sell some grains to traders and bring the rest home to feed their families. That requires paying for yet another habal-habal trip. Oliviana says, "We have some good produce, but it's not enough to cover the high expenses we incur with every harvest. This issue has been hard on our family."



GRAINPRO'S POST-HARVEST SOLUTIONS such as the Hermetic Cocoon and Collapsible Dryer Case II have helped Oliviana and her neighbors overcome these costly hurdles. Farmer Gurdonio Romasasa says the Collapsible Dryer Case helps him dry 18 sacks of rice in two days with no transportation needed. Each sack saves money which sustains his family until the next harvest.

Renato Salway agrees. He says, "The quarterly outcome from my upland rice farming is not enough to sustain the daily expenses for my family and for the educational needs of my children, but as a father and a farmer. I am determined to provide for the needs of my family."

When Renato began storing rice in the GrainPro Hermetic Cocoon, his seed quality improved. That translates to higher yields and higher income. The changes begin to help rebalance harvest results more in the farmers' favor, so they can focus less on the road to the mill, and more on a path out of poverty.



### **GUATEMALA**

How do you begin to lift hundreds of Guatemalans out of poverty? Onyx Coffee CEO Edwin Martinez found unpacking the answer began with luggage.



Edwin says in the early days bringing coffee from his Guatemalan family farm of Finca Vista Hermosa, he asked people to carry coffee back to Washington in carry-on suitcases. Today Onyx Coffee is a global source of Guatemalan coffees. Edwin is proud to work with about 200 farmers to bring their coffees to the world. Edwin says, "A lot of the kids of people I work with have gone to school and become agronomists. Now they are people I want to hire because they're doing great things and can teach others."

Onyx Coffee uses GrainPro 69-kilogram hermetic bags to ensure the value of a harvest for producers, lower input costs, and assure the stability of a product for roasters. Edwin says each new partnership fights poverty, explaining, "It's not addition, it's multiplication—creating the impact of opportunity."







### **GOAL 2: ZERO HUNGER**

Nearly 700 million people are hungry in the world. The COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with man-made conflicts and climate change, puts even people more in peril. GrainPro is committed to Zero Hunger, with increased crop production, decreased post-harvest losses, and food free of post-harvest chemicals.

### PAKISTAN

When Farhan Tahir, from Haji Sons Group, recently went to a chili market north of Lahore, Pakistan, he noticed a farmer getting extra attention from other vendors. The farmer said he had just received 25 percent more money for his red chili peppers than anyone else at the market, and people wanted to know how he did it.

The farmer told Tahir it was a two-pronged success story: Haji Sons seeds gave him a higher yield and GrainPro Hermetic Bags successfully stored his crop to prevent post-harvest loss. The hermetic technology storage solution helped maintain the chilies' shine and color, did not require the use of chemicals, and resulted in a high quality which attracted premium buyers. Farhan says the best part of the day was when the farmer said, "You know, I get double benefits because of you."



Benefits matter to smallholder farmers in Pakistan. Food insecurity impacts more than one out of five people in the country, while extreme weather can create even more challenges. Haji Sons believed being the first company in Pakistan to offer GrainPro products could help farmers reduce some of the 1.3 billion dollars in Pakistan's annual post-harvest losses.

As Farhan says, "The leading concern for the world—and for Pakistan and most developing nations—is food security and sustainability. The only way we can help improve the income of these farmers is to save these losses. If not, who is going to feed the next generation? 2 ZERO HUNGER

## ZERO HUNGER

### RIFT VALLEY, KENYA

You need just water and maize flour to make ugali, a porridge staple eaten almost daily in Kenya. Yet Dorcas Jepkorir, a smallholder farmer and mother of three, knows good ugali is more complicated than the recipe suggests. The flavor changes based on the quality of the grain, and for years, Dorcas says, the quality of ugali she served wasn't as high as she wanted for her family.

Here was the problem: she grew and harvested good quality maize on her five acres of land. Yet after the harvest, Dorcas faced an almost impossible storage challenge: watch as insect infestation destroyed the quality and quantity of her grain or use toxic chemicals which eliminated insects but changed the smell and taste of her grain. She reluctantly decided to use pesticides, until she discovered a third option.







In 2020, Dorcas went to an Agro-dealer to buy more pesticide, and instead she was introduced to GrainPro hermetic storage bags. Dorcas agreed to try ten GrainPro Bags. One week later she ordered one hundred more. The reason for the order, she says, was the improvement of her ugali, which tasted sweeter and smelled fresh when made with maize stored in the GrainPro Bags.

Dorcas has stopped using chemicals to preserve her grain harvest and would rather invest in reusable hermetic storage bag. The payoff, she says, is cooking her milled maize with no chemicals or insects and more nutritional value. It is simple peace of mind to go along with the simple recipe which sustains Dorcas and her family each day.





10

**5** GENDER EQUALITY



## GENDER EQUALITY

### **GRAINPRO GENDER BALANCE**

As a decentralized, global organization with employees in many countries, GrainPro recognizes the importance of gender equality and diversity and its impact on our success. We are committed to total transparency and continued review and improvement of our gender balance.



**GRAINPRO RACIAL DIVERSITY** 

|                           |          | 7% 5% 6%                                 |
|---------------------------|----------|--|
| GRAINPRO RACIAL DIVERSITY | COUNT    | 82%                                      |
| Asian                     | 120      | 82%                                      |
|                           | 10       |  |
|                           |          |  |
|                           |          |  |
| TOTAL                     | 146      |  |
|                           | SIAN BLA | CK OR AFRICAN 🔵 WHITE 🛑 HISPANIC OR LATI |





### **RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION**

### ZERO WASTE CIRCULAR CONSUMPTION

GrainPro is committed to reaching net zero waste circular consumption. We are at the forefront of implementing climate friendly alternatives such as reuse, recycling, and compostable materials.





RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION

AND PRODUCTION



## **CLIMATE ACTION**

### HERMETIC TECHNOLOGY

**CLIMATE ADVANTAGES** 

Use of GrainPro's ultra-hermetic technology can reduce a farmer's net carbon footprint per kilo of output by as much as 30%, while greatly reducing the farmer's dependence on poisonous pesticides, and facilitating chemical free storage and transport of healthy, high nutritional quality rice and maize.







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