

# HORTINVEST PROJECT

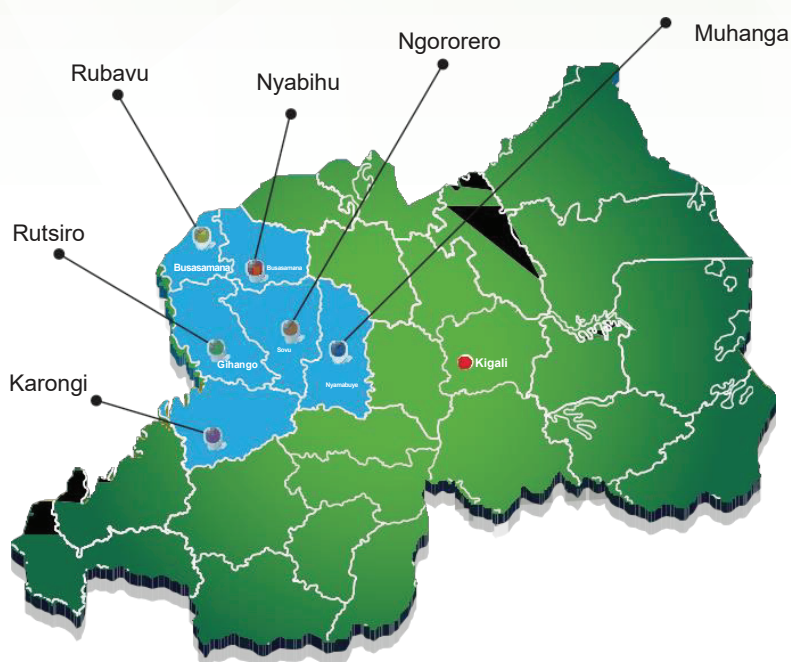
## Key HortInvest Impact figures

- 45,000 farmers have directly benefitted from HortInvest project by increasing yield and income
- 49% HortInvest beneficiaries were women, 19 % are youth
- 50 SMEs benefitted, of which 21 received Investment and Innovation Funding
- 4 Horticulture export companies were trained and equipped to strengthen the link to international markets
- 22,881 Food insecure people received nutritional support

## What is HortInvest Project?

Investing in Horticultural Development in Rwanda, 'HortInvest' strengthens value chains for the benefit of farmers, SMEs and people who are food insecure. It is funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands in Rwanda, in line with the values and goals of the Rwandan Horticulture Policy - fast economic growth and rapid reduction in poverty and malnutrition in Rwanda, through development of the horticulture sector.

From December 2017 - December 2022, the project has focused its activities in six western districts: Muhanga, Karongi, Rutsiro, Rubavu, Nyabihu and Ngororero. This project is implemented by SNV (lead partner), Sustainable Trade Initiative IDH, Wageningen University and research (WUR), Agriterra and Holland Greentech. The project budget is Eur 16.5 million.





## What We Do

The HortInvest project focuses on supporting horticulture growers, their producer organisations and private sector partners. Overall HortInvest aimed to benefit 44,000 smallholder farmers and over 30 SMEs through strategic interventions:



## Key Achievements

By November 2022, HortInvest had benefitted 45,000 small and medium scale horticultural farmers in Rwanda for sustainable and climate resilient productivity and improved incomes.

49 percent of beneficiaries were women and 19 % were youth (under 30).

352 horticultural co-operatives and farmer groups were strengthened to support local farmers in the six districts.

50 SME companies in the Horticulture sector have benefitted from HortInvest. 21 were recipients of the Investment and Innovation Fund (IIF) allowing them to expand their businesses. IIF is a powerful tool to mobilize private sector investment and promote vital innovations in horticultural practice.

HortInvest is actively engaged in facilitating the export of Horticulture products to European and Middle Eastern markets from Rwanda. Currently, four exporting companies (Garden Fresh, Proxy Fresh, Best in Rwanda and Virunga biotech) are engaged in HortInvest's IIF window. They received capacity building (e.g., technical and managerial training, introduction of improved production, packhouse development and certification) and market engagement support.



### ***Strawberry production in Eza Neza***

Over 21,881 food-insecure people received nutritional support, activities and 1.29 million people were reached through an urban consumer campaign for consumption of fruits and vegetables in the six districts.

HortInvest has worked closely with the national government and district mayors' offices to promote the horticulture sector in Rwanda. Specifically, HortInvest has supported the Government of Rwanda's pest products control strategy, and contributed to the Rwanda Horticulture Working Group (RHWG) and Rwanda Potato Sector Platform (RPSP), as well as district level horticulture platforms in Rubavu and Karongi district. In partnership with district GoR offices, HortInvest has also set up selling points in each of its working districts and washing centers which enable women traders to market their produce more easily.



***A women group managed selling point supported by HortInvest in Rutsiro***