

**The Way Forward with Input Access and
Use for Improved Farmer Productivity in
Nigeria (Private Sector Perspective)
Mr. Gideon I Negedu.**

The Way Forward with Input Access and Use for Improved Farmer Productivity in Nigeria (Private Sector Perspective)

Presentation outline

- Introduction
- Challenges
- Way forward with input access
- Overview of fertilizer Investments.

The Way Forward with Input Access and Use for Improved Farmer Productivity in Nigeria (Private Sector Perspective)

Introduction

- The importance of fertilizers as a vital input for increased yields per hectare for the Nigerian farmer can't be overemphasized as studies have shown that proper application of fertilizers alone can account for significant increase in yields for the farmers. However, fertilizer used with other inputs will see overall increase in productivity for the farmer.
- In 2005 African heads of State met in Abuja with a clear resolution to increase the fertilizer use rate per hectare from the abysmal 9kg/ha to 50kg/ha over a 10 year period. Sadly, recent data still put the use rate at lower than 50kg/ha. It can only be imagined the multiplier effect and impact of such an major increase on a sustainable basis, this will mean more yield per hectare for the farmer, more market opportunities for fertilizer entrepreneurs, a

The Way Forward with Input Access and Use for Improved Farmer Productivity in Nigeria (Private Sector Perspective)

Challenges

- Affordability
- Weak regulation of the input industry, case in point is the fertilizer industry.
- Limited access to affordable quality agricultural inputs.(seeds, fertilizers, agro chemicals.
- Inconsistent government policy that limit private sector investment in the input sub sector.
- Insufficient access to credit for suppliers and farmers alike.
- Unreliable road infrastructure

The Way Forward with Input Access and Use for Improved Farmer Productivity in Nigeria (Private Sector Perspective)

Way forward with input access

- The need for government to create an enabling environment to stimulate local production of inputs, this will help attract investors to develop our natural resources for the benefit of our farmers, case in point is the access to Natural Gas for Urea Production.
- Review of input subsidies with a view to reducing subsidies on input and using this money to support extension, create more feeder roads to evacuate produce as well as ensure a better market for farmers.
- Ensure that there are adequate enabling laws with a solid implementation framework to regulate the input industry particularly to ensure that the quality of input is not compromised.
- Continuous education and enlightenment on the use and access to quality inputs that are area and crop specific