

# GREEiNSECT: Insect Production and the Sustainable Development Goals



The GREEiNSECT consortium researches insects for food and feed in Kenya. We support capacity building and the production of scientific evidence in the fields of insect production, food product development, environmental and livelihood assessments.

Insects have been a part of traditional diets in many regions of the world. However, insect farming in Kenya is relatively new, beginning in 2013. To strengthen the impact of the project, we also draw from the experiences of other countries, namely Thailand, USA and South Africa.

Below, we discuss how insect production, or farming, can contribute to achieving many of the Sustainable Development Goals.



- Insect farming generates employment in rural areas. For example, over 20,000 households in rural Thailand are engaged in cricket farming

- Insects can be sold to help rural households gain an additional income
- Insect farming may increase household resilience through the diversification of income channels

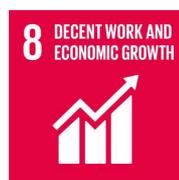


- The consumption of insects can address undernutrition by providing vital micronutrients, like zinc and iron, and animal-source protein

- Small-scale insect production can potentially increase household food security by providing access to nutritious ingredients



- 71% of cricket farmers in Kenya are women and insect farming can be a source of economic empowerment



- Producing insects as food or animal feed can develop a new agricultural sector and create job opportunities
- Farmers in Thailand enjoy farming crickets as the working conditions are more favourable when compared to other forms of agricultural labour



- Some species of insects, like Black Soldier Flies, have the capacity to consume food waste and other agricultural by-products
- Research into insects as food and feed ingredients strengthens our scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production



- A life cycle assessment of cricket farming showed that crickets have lower environmental impacts than most traditional sources of animal protein



- Producing insects as an alternative feed ingredient can help to reduce the consumption of fish meal in aquaculture and animal production systems



- Insect farming can prevent the unsustainable overharvesting of wild insect species



- Over the past four years, GREEiNSECT has built capacity in the insects for food and feed sectors in Kenya
- Public and private partnerships for research and development are an essential element in the formation of sustainable agricultural innovation and entrepreneurship

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