

**50 YEARS OF**

**IMPACT.  
TRANSFORMATION.  
RESPONSIBILITY.**



**Agriculture and  
Rural Development**

## Agriculture and Rural Development

**ICON-INSTITUTE Consulting Group** is one of the leading development consulting companies based in Germany. Founded in 1975 we offer innovative solutions and services to our clients and partners in the fields of Statistics & Evaluation, Economic Development & Employment Promotion, Education & Social Development, and Agriculture & Rural Development.

Since the early 1980s, ICON-INSTITUTE has been driving agricultural transformation and sustainable rural development worldwide. Our services in the expertise field **Agriculture and Rural Development** spans agribusiness development, climate-smart practices, green growth, and resilient food systems. We promote the sustainable management of natural resources – including soils, water, and biodiversity – and foster inclusive rural economies that empower women and youth. We also support the transition towards renewable energy and energy efficiency, assist in the implementation of climate policies and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and help governments access climate finance while integrating environmental priorities into national development planning.

Our projects span diverse regions from the highlands of Bolivia and the drylands of Namibia to the fertile valleys of Georgia and the rice fields of Southeast Asia supporting farmers, cooperatives, and public institutions in strengthening productivity, sustainability, and resilience. Over the years, we have implemented a wide range of impactful projects, including Food Security Programmes in North Korea and the Integrated Management of Protected Areas in the DR Congo, contributing to sustainable livelihoods and resilient ecosystems worldwide.

Through this long-standing engagement, we contribute to the achievement of **SDG 1** (No Poverty), **SDG 2** (Zero Hunger), **SDG 5** (Gender Equality), **SDG 12** (Responsible Consumption and Production), **SDG 13** (Climate Action), and **SDG 15** (Life on Land) – building resilient rural economies that combine productivity with sustainability.



## Our Services

Our work follows a holistic and systemic approach, addressing challenges at the **macro level**, by improving the regulatory and policy environment, at the **meso level**, by strengthening institutions and building sustainable organisational capacities, and at the **micro level**, by supporting small and medium-sized agri-based enterprises and associations. This multi-layered perspective ensures coherence, sustainability, and measurable results across all interventions.

We offer a comprehensive range of services spanning the full project cycle from research, to implementation and evaluation. Our expertise includes conducting sector studies and primary and secondary data surveys, delivering technical advisory services, project management including large expert pools and implementing capacity-building initiatives in the following fields:



### **Agribusiness Development & Green Growth**

- Sustainable Agricultural Practices and Agri-based Value Chain Development
- Agro-Ecology and Climate-Smart Agriculture
- Agri-Food Systems, Food Security and Nutrition



### **Rural Economic Development**

- Women & Youth Empowerment
- Local Planning & Rural Economies
- Agriculture, Rural and Inclusive Financial Service Development
- Agriculture & Environmental Sector Analysis & Policy



### **Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation**

- Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments and Resilience Planning
- Climate Change Mainstreaming & Implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- Sector Analysis & Policy Advisory



### **Natural Resources Management**

- Sustainable Management and Conservation of Soils, Water and Biodiversity
- Integrated Water Resources Management
- Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energies

## Selection of recent references

- Bangladesh: Energy Efficiency in Grid-Based Power Supplies, KfW
- Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritius, Togo, Zambia: Impact assessment of the Global Programme - Enhanced resilience and food security, BMZ/GIZ
- Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Ivory Coast, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Togo, Tunisia, Viet Nam, Zambia: Evaluative Studies of 'Green Innovation Centres in the Agriculture and Food Sector', BMZ/GIZ
- Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Madagascar, Tunisia: Soil Protection and Rehabilitation of Degraded Soil for Food Security, BMZ/GIZ
- Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, India, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Yemen, Zambia: Food Security and Strengthening of Resilience - Study on the contribution of home gardens and of small animal husbandry to better nutrition for families in the intervention areas, BMZ/GIZ
- Cambodia: Desk Study of the Nexus on Climate, Nutrition and Social Security, BMZ/GIZ
- Cambodia, Malawi, Uganda, Zambia: Evaluative Studies on 'Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture', BMZ/GIZ
- Canada: EU-Canada Policy Dialogues Support Facility - Phase II, EU
- Congo DR: Integrated Management of Protected Areas Phase II, KfW
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Food Security Programme, EU
- Ghana: Facilitations of the exit process of 'Promotion of market-oriented agriculture', BMZ/GIZ
- India: Optimising IKI Indias' through cost centre: MEL Approaches, BMZ/GIZ
- India: Climate Adaptation, Resilience, and Climate Finance in Rural India, BMZ/GIZ
- Kenya, Uganda: Promotion of Nutrition-sensitive Potato Value Chains, BMZ/GIZ
- Myanmar: Capacity Development for PSD in Tourism and Agriculture, BMZ/GIZ
- Nepal: Local and Provincial Economic Development - Green Resilient and Productive Agricultural Ecosystems, BMZ/GIZ
- Rwanda: Capacity Development for the Implementation of Rwanda's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) on Climate Change, BMZ/GIZ
- Uganda: Promotion of Rural Development in Northern Uganda, BMZ/GIZ
- Various countries: Sustainability Assessment of the Innovation Fund in Agriculture, BMZ/GIZ
- Various countries: Project Progress Analysis of 'Green Innovation Centres in the Agricultural and Food Sector', BMZ/GIZ



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