Incubation Systems Development and Capacity Strengthening

Agribusiness incubators have been identified as a major approach to supporting the creation of sustainable commercial agribusinesses, jobs and wealth among the youth and women in Africa. However, for agribusiness incubators to be successful and sustainable there is the need to ensure they have the necessary internal structures, models and resources to be able to support agribusiness incubators.

The Solution

The Incubator Systems Development and Capacity Building Service offers AAIN’s members access to a comprehensive set of essential standard operating procedures (SOPs) and process manuals that every incubator needs but cannot easily develop for itself.

In addition, AAIN provides hands-on training and coaching to incubator managers and staff to enable them apply best practices in incubator and incubatee development.

The Incubator Systems Development and Capacity Building Services cover:

1. **Capacity building of leaders and managers of incubators**: AAIN provides capacity building for leaders and managers of incubators to enable them carefully manage the daily operations of the incubators in order to meet financial and market targets. Likewise, AAIN provides training in financial management, human resource management, marketing management and strategic management capacity building for leaders and managers of incubators. This is needed to speed up the development of businesses within incubators.

2. **Implementing Management System Development**: AAIN has adopted management systems for its incubator managers to help incubators improve their performances and manage risks, while operating in more efficient and sustainable ways. AAIN supports managers of incubators to operate within a framework of policies, processes and procedures which are meant to achieve set objectives. These management systems have been tailored to suit the specific needs of each incubator.

3. **Accreditation and M&E Development**: AAIN has an accreditation system that aims at helping incubators upgrade and meet minimum required standards necessary for them to gain acceptance and access to development partners and institutions across the globe. The accreditation system attests to the credibility of incubators and the quality of their products and services. It also helps incubators to perform effectively and scale up their processes. AAIN has also developed monitoring and evaluation systems to check the performance and progress of accredited incubators against set targets.

4. **Coaching and Mentoring of Incubators**: AAIN provides incubators with coaches/mentors to equip them with skills and knowledge relevant for their operation and sustainability. AAIN’s mentors and coaches, with their wealth of experience, help incubators identify risks and challenges and adopt measures to mitigate them. Incubators through, AAIN’s experts and coaches, are able to leverage technology and resources needed to reach their desired goals and objectives.

5. **Agribusiness Education and Incubation Programme support**: AAIN provides training and incubation support programmes for incubators. These support programs are based on identified needs of incubators and incubatees. Incubation support programs are carried out with assistance from local and international development partners.

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**Our Expected Impact**

- 660 Agribusiness Incubators Hubs established and operational across Africa
- 5000+ Incubator Managers and Associates capacity built

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