The Southern and Central Africa Regional Innovation Hub (S/CA RIH) represents a vast, culturally diverse, and complex region with great potential for agricultural transformation and increased production. In sub-Saharan Africa, agriculture is the main livelihood for 60% of the population and accounts for 23% of the continent’s GDP. However, efforts to scale the sector and increase food security are negatively impacted by resource constraints, political instability, and climate change. Additionally, Southern Africa and Central Africa’s biodiversity and ecosystem services are under pressure from unsustainable agricultural practices.

Through WE4F’s Southern and Central Africa Regional Innovation Hub, efforts to scale innovative, water-energy-food solutions can increase food security, ensure valuable resources like water and energy are used more efficiently, protect biodiversity and the environment, and improve the livelihoods of millions of smallholder farmers, especially women farmers.

By 2024, we aim to:
- Identify and fund at least 30 WE4F innovators across the region.
- Support innovators in reaching at least 1 million smallholder farmers including 250,000 women.
- Increase investment to innovators by at least $7.5 million.
- Help farmers increase income and food production while increasing environmental sustainability, water and energy efficiencies.
- Enhance the enabling environment for WE4F innovations through advocacy and capacity building activities.

Where We Work


Interested in learning more? Visit we4f.org/sca
**Our Approach**

To be a catalytic force for promoting the sustainable growth and climate resilience of the region’s agricultural sector, the Southern and Central Africa Regional Innovation Hub works with private sector enterprises and other organizations that have scalable water-food, energy-food, and water-energy-food innovations.

**What We Offer**

**FOR AGRIBUSINESS INNOVATORS:**

We provide grants, technical assistance, and investment facilitation to mid and late-stage companies in the water-energy-food nexus. The financial and technical assistance varies based on the needs of each business. To scale up the impact and support for eligible businesses, the hub also helps connect innovators with regional peers and partners.

Innovators can join the S/CA RIH innovator cohort through our Call for Innovations. Interested applicants should have scalable solutions, be capable of reaching base of the pyramid farmers, and positively impact gender, food security, climate resilience, and the environment and biodiversity. Interested in being part of the S/CA RIH innovator cohort? Learn more: we4f.org/apply-sca

**FOR INVESTORS**

The S/C Africa RIH works as an intermediary to connect investors with a portfolio of companies that have proven track records of success and commercial viability in the region. We reduce investor risks by supporting innovators with financial and technical assistance helping them improve their operations and governance and grow their business.

Interested in investing in a pre-qualified innovator that is reaching markets across Southern and Central Africa? Contact us to learn more about our growing water-energy-food portfolio and innovative financing mechanisms.

**FOR PARTNERS**

The S/C Africa RIH invites interested organizations with objectives that align with WE4F to partner with us in order to scale efforts promote a more sustainable and efficient use of water and energy while producing more food. We are open for collaboration that helps enhance the enabling environment for water-energy-food innovators. Contact the S/CA RIH to explore partnerships and discuss how your organization can be a meaningful part of water-energy-food solutions.

**Who We Are**

The Southern and Central Africa Regional Innovation Hub is implemented by three leading international organizations: Tetra Tech, Open Capital Advisors, and International Water Management Institute (IWMI).

**CONTACT US**

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