

Tech demos: Explore tools and digital products for agriculture

[4th Floor North, 1:30 to 3:00 PM]

TROTRO Tractor *Emmanuel Ansah-Amprofi*

TROTRO Tractor is an agricultural technology company that connects smallholder farmers with tractors and other agricultural machinery services. With our technology, farmers can request, prepay and schedule tractors and other agricultural machinery using feature phones and smart phones. Tractor owners can also monitor the efficiency of their machines remotely using specialized GPS trackers, USSD app and mobile app.

6th Grain *Molly Brown*

6th Grain is a highly innovative and agile digital agriculture technology company with solutions being used by leading input suppliers and other agriculture holding companies in both low and high-income country settings. During the demonstration, 6th Grain will show high quality, actionable intelligence via our digital tool FieldFocus, crop mapping and other modules.

DAI Digital Innovations *Inta Plostins*

Share digital innovations and win a prize! USAID is creating and implementing a living, updateable inventory of digital innovations and databases in agriculture, resilience, nutrition, and water systems. Share as many innovations as you can at DAI's table to help build the inventory and enter to win a prize!

TechChange *Christopher Neu*

TechChange will demonstrate their approach to scaling capacity building on digital agriculture, which will include blended training workshop with IFPRI on blockchain, community webinars with CGIAR, self-paced training on Trade in Africa with the World Bank, and animations with Food for Peace.

Trees for the Future *Maurita Obermiller*

Trees for the Future has developed the Forest Garden Training Center, a world class distance training and certification platform—accessible via web and app—that certifies trainers around the world to use the four-year Forest Garden training methodology. It features a resource center, an interactive global map of Certified Trainers and a Leaderboard showing trainers who have planted the most trees and helped the most families.

Techno Brain *Alfred Selvarajah*

Techno Brain is a leading digital company with operations in Africa, USA, India and UAE. It is also the first indigenous African company to be assessed at CMMI Level-5, achieving highest quality standards for software development. Currently operating in 21 countries, employing 1200 high-tech jobs on the continent, Techno Brain has achieved leadership positions in areas such as public financial management, digital identifications, IT training & education, business process outsourcing and host of e-government solutions.

GeoPoll *Scott Lansell*

The lack of up-to-date data about farming in Kenya led GeoPoll to create a farmer respondent panel in partnership with MediaE. Over 18,000 farmers in Kenya were recruited into this panel, and we surveyed 900+ across 39 counties. Data collected is publicly available. This approach can be replicated across Africa offering a direct voice to farmers and supply chains using an inexpensive and accessible tool to inform, educate and offer a voice to farmers.



Lightning talks: Action and reflection from innovators and implementers

[6th Floor South]

1:30 PM – Blockchain

Chris Light, SID-W

Designed for the interested to the ongoing blockchain practitioner. This lightning talk will cover the basics of blockchain with an agricultural emphasis. The talk will conclude with examples with the intent of generating discussion on practical uses of blockchain in farming.

1:42 PM – Coffee Cloud: Precision ag at the touch of a button

Krista Baptista, DAI

From 2013 to 2018, DAI worked with coffee farmers across Central America to develop Coffee Cloud, a mobile app that delivers personalized weather and pest information, and links farmers to extension workers for advice. Join DAI's Center for Digital Acceleration to learn how Coffee Cloud went from concept to adoption by thousands of farmers throughout the region.

1:54 PM – Innovations in farmer finance

Clara Yoon, MEDA

This lightning talk will share learnings and insights from a global innovation portfolio, with a focus on the role of technology in improving financial inclusion and the adoption of agricultural innovations by smallholders.

2:06 PM – Strengthening competitive ICT markets

Ellie Turner, RTI International

This talk will focus on how the USAID/Feed the Future Kenya Crops and Dairy Market Systems activity stimulates competition among ICT firms. The project avoids “picking winners” and distorting the ICT market by allowing clients—dairy cooperatives, agrodealers, and SMEs—to select firms offering the best value proposition.

2:18 PM – Beyond funding: Non-financial support is priceless

Sabeen Dhanani, USAID

Prizes, challenges and innovation calls are all great ways to source emerging agtech solutions. Beyond funding, many organizations need technical assistance, partnerships, access to best practices. This talk will highlight different ways that initiatives have provided critical, non-financial support to promising innovations.

2:30 PM – Leveraging ICT for smallholder farmers

Geoff Andersen, John Deere

This talk will showcase how John Deere is leveraging a technology partnership with Hello Tractor to deliver a comprehensive suite of equipment and services to provide mechanization to smallholder farmers. This partnership continues to have dramatic impacts on food production, smallholder productivity, and rural communities.

2:42 PM – Agricultural insights for a volatile world

David Bergvinson, aWhere

Economic resilience against climate change requires timely and accurate weather data to empower farmers and agriculture value chain actors to make better decisions. aWhere offers premier observed weather data and insight products, so every farmer globally is only 6 km from a virtual weather station to provide a coordinated response to climate change.

