

Prepared by
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ADA COMMERCIAL



Concept
Note

Agritocracy Grain Sustainability Project



www.adacommercial.com



adacommgmt@gmail.com

AGRITOCRACY Grain Sustainability Project, Liberia

Concept Note

Prepared by:

ADA Commercial Inc.

Tubman Blvd, Congo Town, P.O. Box 3024, Monrovia, Liberia

123 Town Square Place, Suite #166, Jersey City, NJ 07310, USA

Contact Information:

Email: adacomgmt@gmail.com

Website: www.adacommercial.com

Phone: +1 (771)-201-4412 | +231-776796319 | +1 (404) 433-2044

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Project Funding Requirement:

Phase 1: USD 30 million

Phase 2: USD 300 million

Objective:

To enhance food security, economic empowerment, and agricultural sustainability in Liberia and the ECOWAS region through large-scale mechanized farming and value chain development.

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1. Executive Summary

Project Overview

The **AGRITOCRACY Grain Sustainability Project** is a transformative agricultural initiative led by **ADA Commercial Inc.**, established in **2009** to drive food production and agribusiness development in **Liberia and the broader Mano River Union (MRU) region**, including **Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Côte d'Ivoire**. The project seeks to **increase agricultural productivity, enhance food security, and foster economic growth** by implementing **large-scale mechanized farming and processing systems**.

Despite Liberia's vast **arable land**, the country remains **highly dependent on food imports**, particularly **rice**, spending over **USD 250 million annually** on imports. This dependency exposes the economy to **global market fluctuations, trade imbalances, and food price volatility**, negatively impacting **economic stability and household affordability**.

The **AGRITOCRACY project** is designed to **reverse this trend** by significantly increasing **domestic food production and value-added processing**, reducing **import dependency**, stabilizing **food prices**, and creating **economic opportunities** for **farmers and agribusiness stakeholders**.

Project Investment Phases

The **USD 330 million project** will be executed in two strategic phases:

- **Phase 1 (USD 30 million):** Initial groundwork, land preparation, irrigation system development, mechanization, and pilot farming operations.
- **Phase 2 (USD 300 million):** Full-scale deployment, including expanding cultivated land, establishing advanced processing plants, logistics infrastructure, storage facilities, and regional market expansion.

ADA Commercial's Equity Contribution

ADA Commercial Inc. has demonstrated its **long-term financial commitment** by contributing **USD 24.5 million in equity investment** over the last **15 years**, specifically:

- **USD 8.9 million in production infrastructure** (mechanization, irrigation, land preparation).
- **USD 10.6 million in grain processing plant development** (mills, storage, logistics infrastructure).
- **USD 5 million in seeds, research, and improved crop varieties.**

These investments lay a **strong foundation** for AGRITOCRACY's expansion and financial sustainability, ensuring operational efficiency and long-term impact.

Strategic Objectives

The **AGRITOCRACY Project** aligns with **Liberia's National Development Plan** and **ECOWAS agricultural policies** to enhance **food security, rural employment, and agribusiness growth**.

Key objectives include:

- **Enhancing domestic food production** – Scaling up **rice, maize, soybean, and cassava production** to reduce import dependency and increase local supply.
- **Mechanizing and modernizing agriculture** – Implementing **state-of-the-art irrigation, mechanized farming, and climate-resilient practices** to boost productivity.
- **Strengthening value chains and processing capabilities** – Establishing **rice mills, grain processing plants, and storage facilities** to increase **value addition** and minimize **post-harvest losses**.
- **Empowering smallholder farmers through out-grower schemes** – Providing **access to financing, technology, and market linkages** to integrate **rural farmers into the commercial agricultural ecosystem**.
- **Creating large-scale employment and rural economic growth** – Generating over **2,000 direct and indirect jobs** across farming, processing, logistics, and retail sectors.
- **Expanding regional trade & market linkages** – Supplying surplus food to **ECOWAS and MRU states**, strengthening **cross-border agricultural trade**.

Economic and Social Impact

Job Creation & Livelihood Improvement

- Over **2,000 direct and indirect jobs** created across **farming, processing, distribution, logistics, and retail sectors**.
- Women and youth will represent at least **40% of the employment pool**, fostering **inclusive economic participation**.
- Skills development programs to **train farmers, agribusiness workers, and logistics personnel**, ensuring a **skilled workforce**.

Reduction in Food Imports & Cost Savings

- Decreasing Liberia's **USD 250 million rice import bill** by increasing **local production and market supply**.
- Reducing **foreign exchange outflows** and **stabilizing food prices** to make staple foods **more affordable**.

Strengthening Regional Agribusiness Ecosystem

- Supplying **ECOWAS and MRU nations** with surplus **rice, maize, cassava, and soybean**, improving **regional food security**.
- Supporting **Liberia's economic integration** with **regional trade blocs**, increasing **foreign exchange earnings** from **agricultural exports**.

Environmental & Climate Resilience

- Adoption of **sustainable farming practices**, including **climate-smart irrigation, soil conservation, and eco-friendly fertilizers**.

- Enhancing **water management efficiency** through **modern irrigation systems**, reducing dependency on **unpredictable rainfall**.

Funding Approach & Investment Strategy

The **USD 330 million project financing** will be mobilized through a **blended funding approach**, including:

1. **Development Finance Institutions (DFIs)** – Partnerships with **development banks and impact-driven financial institutions**.
2. **Equity Investors & Agribusiness Funds** – Attracting **private investors seeking long-term returns** from **agriculture infrastructure and value-chain development**.
3. **Government & Bilateral Development Grants** – Securing funding from **international agricultural programs, food security initiatives, and donor agencies**.
4. **Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)** – Collaboration between **government agencies, agribusiness companies, and international NGOs**.

This **blended financing model** ensures that the project maintains **financial sustainability, risk diversification, and long-term operational success**.

Conclusion: Liberia's Path to Agricultural Transformation

The **AGRITOCRACY Grain Sustainability Project** is a **game-changer** for **Liberia and the entire West African sub-region**. By leveraging **modern agriculture, strong financial backing, and strategic regional partnerships**, the project will transform **Liberia from a food-importing country to a self-sustaining agricultural powerhouse**.

With **strong government support, secured land assets, and an experienced management team**, **AGRITOCRACY presents a compelling investment opportunity** for funders committed to **food security, economic empowerment, and sustainable agribusiness growth in Africa**.

Investing in **AGRITOCRACY** means investing in the **future of West Africa's food security and economic resilience!**

For Partnership Opportunities & Funding Discussions, Contact:

Email: adacommgmt@gmail.com

Website: www.adacommercial.com

Phone: +1 (771)-201-4412 | +231-776796319 | +1 (404) 433-2044

2. Project Rationale

2.1 Food Security Challenges in Liberia and ECOWAS

Food insecurity remains a **persistent and structural issue** in **Liberia and the broader ECOWAS region**. Despite having **vast arable land, favorable climatic conditions, and a significant**

agricultural workforce, Liberia continues to **import the majority of its staple foods**, particularly rice. The country spends **over USD 250 million annually on rice imports**, making it **highly vulnerable to global food price fluctuations and supply chain disruptions**.

Over **40 million people across ECOWAS are undernourished**, with Liberia facing a **double burden of food insecurity and malnutrition**. The dependence on imported food has led to:

- **High food prices**, making essential food items unaffordable for a large segment of the population.
- **Increased trade deficits**, placing pressure on Liberia's foreign exchange reserves.
- **Limited domestic agricultural development**, stifling rural economies and employment growth.
- **Vulnerability to global supply chain shocks**, as seen during the COVID-19 pandemic and recent geopolitical conflicts affecting commodity prices.

The AGRITOCRACY Grain Sustainability Project is positioned as a **strategic intervention** to address these challenges by significantly **boosting domestic food production, reducing import dependency, and ensuring long-term food security** for Liberia and its neighboring countries.

2.2 Agricultural Underdevelopment and Its Economic Consequences

Liberia's agricultural sector remains **underdeveloped and underfunded**, with smallholder farmers facing significant challenges in scaling production. The sector is constrained by:

- **Low mechanization levels**, with most farmers still using traditional farming tools.
- **Limited access to financing**, preventing investments in modern farming techniques and expansion.
- **Poor irrigation infrastructure**, making production highly dependent on unpredictable rainfall.
- **Inadequate storage and processing facilities**, leading to post-harvest losses and reduced profitability.

- **Weak market linkages**, limiting smallholder farmers' ability to sell their produce at competitive prices.

As a result, **over 60% of Liberia's population** relies on subsistence agriculture, yet **agriculture contributes less than 40% to the national GDP**. This imbalance highlights the **urgent need for large-scale mechanized farming and value-chain integration**, which AGRITOCRACY aims to implement.

2.3 High Youth Unemployment and Rural Economic Decline

Liberia has one of the highest youth unemployment rates in West Africa, with **over 45% of young people unemployed and many more underemployed**. The lack of opportunities in rural areas has contributed to:

- **Mass migration to urban centers**, creating overcrowding and increasing poverty in cities.
- **The rise in irregular migration**, as young Liberians seek better opportunities abroad, often facing dangerous journeys through the desert or across the Mediterranean.
- **A declining rural economy**, as younger generations abandon farming for informal urban jobs with little security or growth potential.

By establishing **large-scale mechanized farming operations**, AGRITOCRACY will **revitalize rural economies, create jobs, and encourage youth participation in agribusiness** through structured out-grower programs, vocational training, and financial inclusion initiatives.

2.4 Strategic Positioning for Regional Food Trade and Economic Integration

Liberia is strategically located within **the Mano River Union (MRU) and ECOWAS trade blocs**, presenting an opportunity to **develop an agricultural export hub** that supplies food to neighboring countries. Currently, **many ECOWAS nations struggle with food production**, relying on expensive imports from Asia, Europe, and the Americas.

The AGRITOCRACY project is designed to:

- **Produce surplus rice, maize, soybean, and cassava** for regional distribution.
- **Supply ECOWAS and MRU member states**, strengthening intra-African trade.
- **Capitalize on regional trade agreements**, including the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), to expand market access.

By establishing a **robust agricultural supply chain**, AGRITOCRACY will contribute to **economic diversification, regional food stability, and enhanced trade relations** between Liberia and its West African neighbors.

2.5 Environmental and Climate Resilience Considerations

Climate change poses a significant threat to food production in West Africa, with increasing instances of **droughts, floods, and soil degradation** affecting yields. Many smallholder farmers lack the resources to **adapt to changing climate conditions**, making their production highly volatile.

AGRITOCRACY integrates **climate-smart agriculture and sustainable farming practices**, including:

- **Modern irrigation systems**, reducing reliance on rainfall and improving year-round production.
- **Soil conservation techniques**, such as crop rotation and organic fertilizers, to maintain soil fertility.
- **Renewable energy-powered processing plants**, minimizing carbon emissions.
- **Agroforestry initiatives**, increasing biodiversity and long-term land sustainability.

By incorporating these **resilient agricultural techniques**, AGRITOCRACY will **mitigate environmental risks while ensuring sustainable food production** for generations to come.

2.6 Rationale for Large-Scale Investment

Given the scale of Liberia's **food security crisis, agricultural inefficiencies, and economic stagnation**, a **comprehensive, well-funded approach** is required to achieve **meaningful**

transformation. The **USD 330 million AGRITOCRACY project** represents a strategic investment in:

- **Modernizing the agricultural sector** through mechanization, irrigation, and infrastructure development.
- **Creating thousands of jobs**, directly addressing youth unemployment and rural poverty.
- **Expanding Liberia's role in regional food security**, reducing dependency on global markets.
- **Building a self-sufficient food ecosystem**, ensuring national resilience against future crises.

By securing **investment from development finance institutions, impact investors, and public-private partnerships**, AGRITOCRACY will position Liberia as **a leader in sustainable agribusiness in West Africa**. This initiative is not just about increasing food production—it is about **building a resilient economy, empowering communities, and fostering long-term prosperity** for Liberia and the region.

3. Objectives and Expected Outcomes

The **AGRITOCRACY Grain Sustainability Project** is designed to transform Liberia's agricultural sector into a **self-sustaining, high-output, and inclusive industry** that drives **food security, economic growth, and social development**. By implementing **mechanized large-scale farming, modern processing facilities, and renewable energy solutions**, the project will address **key economic, environmental, and social challenges** in Liberia and the ECOWAS region.

The initiative aligns with **several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, particularly:

- **SDG 1: No Poverty** – By creating **200,000+ direct and indirect jobs**, boosting agricultural productivity, and enhancing rural incomes.

- **SDG 2: Zero Hunger** – By increasing **local food production**, **reducing reliance on imports**, and **ensuring food security** for Liberia and neighboring states.
- **SDG 5: Gender Equality** – By ensuring **at least 40% of employment and training opportunities** are allocated to **women and marginalized groups**, promoting equity in agriculture.
- **SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy** – By integrating **solar and renewable energy solutions** to power **Monrovia and project facilities**, reducing carbon emissions.
- **SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth** – By strengthening Liberia's **agribusiness sector**, **attracting investment**, and **supporting smallholder farmers** through out-grower programs.
- **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure** – By building **modern processing plants**, **storage facilities**, and **irrigation systems** to support food production and market expansion.
- **SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production** – By promoting **sustainable farming practices**, reducing post-harvest losses, and minimizing food waste.
- **SDG 13: Climate Action** – By using **climate-smart agriculture**, **water-efficient irrigation**, and **reforestation initiatives** to enhance climate resilience.

3.1 Key Objectives

1. Achieve Food Security and Reduce Import Dependency

- **Increase production of staple grains (rice, maize, soybean, and cassava)** to replace costly imports.
- Establish **sustainable and climate-resilient farming systems** to ensure year-round food availability.
- **Reduce Liberia's USD 250 million food import bill** by promoting **domestic production and regional trade**.

2. Develop Large-Scale Mechanized and Irrigated Farming

- Implement **state-of-the-art irrigation systems** to increase productivity and mitigate climate risks.

- Deploy **modern farming equipment and mechanized processes** to enhance efficiency.
- Develop a **fully integrated value chain**, including **farming, processing, storage, and distribution**.

3. Strengthen the Agribusiness Value Chain and Market Linkages

- Establish **advanced grain processing facilities**, including rice mills and cassava flour plants.
- Create **cold storage and distribution centers** to minimize post-harvest losses.
- Develop partnerships with **regional trade bodies (ECOWAS, MRU, and AfCFTA)** to expand market access.

4. Promote Equity, Women's Empowerment, and Inclusive Growth

- Ensure **at least 40% of project jobs and leadership roles** are filled by **women, youth, and marginalized communities**.
- Provide **technical training, financial support, and mentorship** for women-led agribusiness ventures.
- Develop **microfinance and cooperative models** to support smallholder farmers, particularly women.

5. Enhance Renewable Energy Infrastructure to Power the Project and Monrovia

- Develop **solar and biomass energy solutions** to power farms, processing plants, and rural communities.
- Establish **off-grid renewable energy hubs** to support **Monrovia's energy needs** and provide power to project-affected regions.
- Reduce reliance on **fossil fuels**, lowering the carbon footprint of Liberia's agriculture sector.

6. Create Large-Scale Employment and Economic Opportunities

- Generate over **2,000 direct and indirect jobs** across the agricultural value chain.

- Support rural youth employment by integrating **agribusiness training and employment programs**.
- Develop **agripreneurship initiatives** to encourage innovation and private sector participation in agriculture.

7. Ensure Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience

- Introduce **climate-smart agriculture** to mitigate the effects of climate change on food production.
- Promote **water conservation and responsible land use** to prevent soil degradation.
- Establish **afforestation and sustainable land management programs** to maintain ecosystem balance.

3.2 Expected Outcomes

Increased Food Production and Security

- Liberia will **reduce its food import dependency by at least 50% within the first five years**.
- The project will **increase national rice production by 80%**, ensuring affordable and accessible food supply.
- Smallholder farmers will **integrate into a structured value chain**, improving livelihoods and income levels.

Economic Growth and Employment Generation

- Over **200,000 jobs created**, benefiting **women, youth, and rural communities**.
- Strengthened **agribusiness infrastructure**, contributing to **Liberia's GDP growth**.
- Increased income for **farmers, logistics operators, and agro-processors** through a structured agricultural market.

Women's Empowerment and Equity in Agriculture

- **40% of leadership and employment opportunities** reserved for **women and marginalized groups**.
- Women-led agribusiness ventures will receive **technical and financial support** to scale operations.
- Increased access to **education, skills training, and finance for women in agriculture**.

Expansion of Regional Trade and Market Linkages

- The project will supply **ECOWAS, MRU, and AfCFTA member states** with **surplus grains**.
- Liberia will become a **major exporter of processed agricultural products** to neighboring countries.
- Strengthened agricultural trade agreements will **boost Liberia's foreign exchange earnings**.

Renewable Energy for Agriculture and Monrovia's Energy Grid

- **Solar-powered irrigation and processing plants** will reduce operating costs and carbon emissions.
- **Off-grid solar and biomass energy infrastructure** will provide **clean power to Monrovia and surrounding regions**.
- The project will contribute to **Liberia's renewable energy transition** and lower dependency on imported fossil fuels.

Climate Resilience and Environmental Protection

- Adoption of **climate-resilient crops, efficient water management, and agroforestry practices**.
- Reduction of **post-harvest losses by 30%**, ensuring more food reaches markets.
- Long-term **environmental sustainability through responsible land and water management policies**.

Conclusion

The **AGRITOCRACY Grain Sustainability Project** is an **economic, social, and environmental game-changer** for Liberia and the West African region. By **leveraging modern technology, sustainable farming practices, and inclusive economic policies**, the project will **reduce hunger, create jobs, and promote women's empowerment while expanding regional trade opportunities**.

With strong alignment to **Liberia's National Development Goals, ECOWAS trade policies, and the UN SDGs**, this project represents a **compelling investment opportunity** for stakeholders interested in **food security, clean energy, gender equality, and economic resilience** in Africa.

4. Project Description and Components

The **AGRITOCRACY Grain Sustainability Project** is a **large-scale, mechanized agricultural initiative** designed to establish **food security, economic sustainability, and climate resilience** in Liberia and the ECOWAS region. This project integrates **modern farming techniques, advanced irrigation systems, value chain development, and renewable energy solutions** to enhance agricultural productivity, reduce reliance on food imports, and create economic opportunities.

The project will be implemented in **two phases**:

- **Phase 1 (USD 30 million)**: Land preparation, mechanization, irrigation system setup, pilot farming, and infrastructure development.
- **Phase 2 (USD 300 million)**: Expansion of cultivated land, full-scale farming, processing plant establishment, logistics infrastructure, and regional market expansion.

This initiative focuses on four primary **agricultural commodities**:

1. **Rice (80%)** – Liberia's staple food, with the highest national demand.

2. **Maize (15%)** – Essential for food and livestock feed, supporting poultry and dairy production.
3. **Soybean (2.5%)** – Critical for protein-rich food and animal feed production.
4. **Cassava (2.5%)** – A drought-resistant staple providing food security and processing opportunities.

4.1 Project Components

1. Land Development and Infrastructure

To ensure large-scale and high-yield agricultural production, the project will develop:

- **60,000 hectares in Liberia** (Lofa, Bong, and Nimba counties).
- **300,000 hectares of private farmland** secured for additional cultivation.
- **100,000 hectares in Sierra Leone** dedicated to regional supply and export markets.
- **Construction of access roads** for transportation of inputs and farm produce.
- **Establishment of mechanized farming zones**, integrating climate-smart technology and soil health improvement strategies.

2. Mechanization and Irrigation Systems

To transition from **low-yield, rain-fed subsistence farming to high-efficiency mechanized agriculture**, the project will:

- **Deploy modern agricultural machinery**, including tractors, planters, harvesters, and threshers.
- **Develop large-scale irrigation systems**, reducing dependency on erratic rainfall.
- **Implement precision agriculture techniques**, including drone monitoring, soil testing, and GPS-guided planting.
- **Use renewable energy-powered irrigation**, ensuring **sustainable water management and cost reduction**.

3. Processing and Value Addition Facilities

One of Liberia's biggest agricultural challenges is **post-harvest losses**, which the project aims to reduce through **processing and value addition**:

- **Establish rice milling plants** to process locally produced rice, reducing reliance on imported brands.
- **Develop maize and soybean processing plants**, producing flour, animal feed, and biofuel components.
- **Set up cassava processing units**, turning raw cassava into flour, starch, and ethanol.
- **Construct grain storage and warehousing facilities**, preventing post-harvest losses and ensuring stable market supply.
- **Integrate modern packaging and branding**, enhancing competitiveness in local and regional markets.

4. Market Linkages and Regional Trade Expansion

To maximize **economic returns and trade impact**, the project will:

- **Secure long-term offtake agreements** with regional trade bodies, food processing companies, and international buyers.
- **Develop an export strategy to ECOWAS and Mano River Union countries**, supplying food-insecure regions with high-quality, affordable grains.
- **Establish wholesale and retail distribution networks**, ensuring locally produced food is accessible and affordable.
- **Leverage African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) policies** to expand into broader West African markets.

5. Renewable Energy Integration for Sustainable Agribusiness

The project will incorporate **renewable energy solutions** to ensure sustainability, reduce operational costs, and support Liberia's **clean energy transition**:

- **Solar-powered irrigation and processing facilities**, reducing dependence on diesel-powered systems.
- **Biomass energy from agricultural waste**, providing sustainable power for farm operations.
- **Mini-grid solar installations for rural electrification**, benefitting communities near farming zones.
- **Providing excess clean energy to Monrovia's power grid**, improving urban energy reliability.

6. Inclusive Growth, Women's Empowerment, and Community Development

A central goal of the project is to **ensure equitable participation and economic benefits**, particularly for **women, youth, and marginalized groups**:

- **40% of employment and leadership roles will be allocated to women**, strengthening gender equity in agribusiness.
- **Establishment of women-led agribusiness cooperatives**, providing training, access to finance, and market opportunities.
- **Out-grower schemes supporting smallholder farmers**, integrating them into commercial supply chains through technical training, equipment access, and contract farming agreements.
- **Community-based education and vocational training programs**, equipping youth with the skills needed for modern agriculture and agribusiness.

7. Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability

The project will promote **climate-smart agriculture** to enhance resilience against climate change while ensuring sustainable resource use:

- **Agroforestry and reforestation programs**, improving soil health and reducing carbon footprints.
- **Efficient water management techniques**, including rainwater harvesting and controlled irrigation.

- **Introduction of climate-resilient crop varieties**, ensuring stable yields under varying weather conditions.
- **Use of organic and bio-based fertilizers**, minimizing chemical dependency and preserving soil health.

4.2 Expected Outcomes by Project Completion

The AGRITOCRACY project will deliver **high-impact, measurable outcomes** across multiple sectors, including agriculture, economy, social development, and environmental sustainability:

1. Agricultural Output and Food Security

- Increase **national rice production by 80%**, reducing import dependency.
- Reduce **post-harvest losses by 30%**, ensuring greater food availability.
- Improve food affordability, stabilizing national food prices.

2. Economic Growth and Job Creation

- Generate **200,000 direct and indirect jobs** across farming, processing, and logistics.
- Increase **rural incomes and financial inclusion**, particularly for women and youth.
- Position Liberia as a **leading agribusiness hub in West Africa** through regional exports.

3. Renewable Energy and Sustainability

- Provide **solar-powered irrigation and processing plants**, reducing diesel reliance.
- Supply **excess clean energy to Monrovia**, supporting urban power needs.
- Reduce **Liberia's carbon footprint through sustainable agricultural practices**.

4. Regional Trade and Market Expansion

- Strengthen **ECOWAS and MRU agricultural trade**, ensuring market stability.
- Secure **long-term offtake agreements** with international food security agencies.
- Improve **Liberia's trade balance and foreign exchange reserves**.

5. Social Impact and Women's Empowerment

- Ensure **40% participation of women in agribusiness leadership and operations**.
- Provide **financial and technical support to women-led farming cooperatives**.

- Implement **skills training and education programs** to upskill farmers and agripreneurs.

Conclusion

The **AGRITOCRACY Grain Sustainability Project** is a **strategic, large-scale agricultural development initiative** that integrates **mechanized farming, climate resilience, renewable energy, and regional trade expansion**. With a **clear execution plan and strong economic impact**, the project is poised to **transform Liberia's agricultural sector, create jobs, enhance food security, and drive long-term economic development**.

By leveraging **public-private partnerships, development finance institutions, and impact investments**, this project presents a **sustainable, profitable, and socially responsible investment opportunity** that aligns with **Liberia's National Development Goals, ECOWAS agricultural policies, and global SDG commitments**.

6. Funding Requirements

The **AGRITOCRACY Grain Sustainability Project** requires **USD 330 million** in total funding, structured in **two key phases** to ensure effective implementation, risk management, and long-term sustainability. The project will be financed through a **blended finance approach**, combining **debt financing, equity investment, public-private partnerships, and concessional funding from development finance institutions (DFIs)**.

6.1 Funding Breakdown by Phase

Phase	Investment Required (USD)	Key Activities
Phase 1	30 million	Land acquisition, mechanization, irrigation setup, pilot farming, infrastructure

		development, and initial processing plant setup.
Phase 2	300 million	Full-scale expansion, processing plant completion, logistics infrastructure, regional trade linkages, and renewable energy integration.

6.2 Sources of Funding

The project aims to secure funding from the following sources:

- **Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) & Multilateral Agencies**
 - African Development Bank (AfDB)
 - International Finance Corporation (IFC)
 - ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID)
 - World Bank and International Development Association (IDA)
 - African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank)
- **Government and Bilateral Donor Support**
 - Liberia Ministry of Agriculture
 - European Union (EU), and UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)
 - UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- **Equity Investment & Private Sector Partners**
 - Agribusiness venture capital funds
 - Impact investors focused on food security and climate resilience
 - Private agribusiness corporations looking for supply chain integration
- **Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)**
 - Strategic partnerships with international agribusiness firms
 - Co-investment agreements with large food-processing companies
- **Grant Funding & Concessional Loans**
 - Climate-smart agriculture funds

- Grants for women-led agribusiness initiatives
- Concessional financing from green and renewable energy-focused institutions

By diversifying funding sources, the project will ensure **financial stability, minimize risks, and maximize impact** across economic, social, and environmental dimensions.

6.3 Equity Contribution by ADA Commercial Inc.

ADA Commercial Inc. has committed **USD 24.5 million** in equity investment over the last **15 years** to support AGRITOCRACY's foundation and expansion. The breakdown of this investment is as follows:

- **USD 8.9 million** in production infrastructure (mechanization, irrigation, land preparation)
- **USD 10.6 million** in grain processing plant development (mills, storage, logistics infrastructure)
- **USD 5 million** in seeds, research, and improved crop varieties

This **significant equity investment** underscores ADA Commercial's commitment to the success and long-term sustainability of the AGRITOCRACY project, ensuring that financial partners have a **strong foundational investment** to build upon.

By diversifying funding sources and securing committed equity contributions, the project will ensure **financial stability, minimize risks, and maximize economic, social, and environmental impact**.

7. Risk Assessment & Mitigation Strategies

While the AGRITOCRACY project presents a **high-potential investment opportunity**, it also faces **risks that must be effectively managed** to ensure long-term success. Below are key risks and corresponding mitigation strategies.

7.1 Key Risks and Mitigation Strategies

Risk Category	Potential Risk	Mitigation Strategy
Financial Risks	Insufficient funding or delays in capital disbursement.	Diversify funding sources, leverage PPPs, and secure early-stage commitments from investors.
Market Risks	Unstable food prices, limited market access.	Secure long-term offtake agreements, strengthen regional trade partnerships, and align production with ECOWAS demand.
Operational Risks	Delays in land acquisition, irrigation, and processing plant construction.	Establish a strong project governance framework, work closely with local authorities, and deploy experienced contractors.
Environmental Risks	Climate change impact (droughts, floods) affecting crop yields.	Implement climate-smart agriculture practices, drought-resistant crops, and modern irrigation technologies.
Regulatory & Political Risks	Changes in agricultural policies, land tenure disputes.	Engage with the government and regulatory bodies, secure land-use agreements, and ensure compliance with national policies.
Supply Chain Risks	Disruptions in transportation, logistics, or input supply.	Develop local input sourcing strategies, invest in logistics infrastructure, and establish partnerships with suppliers.
Social Risks	Resistance from local communities, gender inequality in employment.	Conduct stakeholder consultations, integrate women-led agricultural cooperatives, and ensure fair labor practices.

8. Impact & Sustainability

The AGRITOCRACY project is designed to address Liberia's persistent food insecurity by significantly enhancing domestic agricultural production. The project prioritizes the cultivation of high-quality **rice (80%)**, **maize (15%)**, **soybean (2.5%)**, and **cassava (2.5%)**, ensuring a diversified and resilient food supply.

One of the critical challenges Liberia faces is its **heavy dependence on food imports**, particularly rice, which costs the country over **\$250 million annually**. The AGRITOCRACY initiative will directly reduce this dependency by increasing local production capacity and strengthening value chains, thereby improving food affordability and accessibility.

Beyond food security, the project has a **far-reaching socio-economic impact**. It is expected to create approximately **200,000 direct and indirect jobs**, benefitting a wide range of stakeholders, including smallholder farmers, agro-processors, transport and logistics providers, and retail distributors. This employment generation will particularly support **1 million subsistence farmers and their families**, enhancing household incomes and contributing to national economic stability.

From a regional perspective, the project aligns with the **ECOWAS and MRU (Mano River Union) strategic goals** on food security, agricultural development, and environmental sustainability. By integrating sustainable farming techniques, the project ensures **climate-smart agricultural practices**, including the use of **precision farming, mechanization, and soil conservation techniques** to maximize productivity while minimizing environmental degradation.

A key component of the sustainability strategy is the **introduction of advanced mechanized farming**. The AGRITOCRACY project incorporates modern agricultural technologies such as **automated irrigation, precision seeding, and real-time crop monitoring**, which will enhance efficiency and ensure **long-term sustainability**. These innovations will also play a vital role in **climate adaptation**, mitigating the risks associated with erratic weather patterns and environmental changes.

Furthermore, the project includes an **out-grower scheme**, in which approximately **30% of ADA's targeted production will be allocated to smallholder farmers**. This will empower local farmers

with **technical training, access to financing, and input support**, ensuring their active participation in large-scale agribusiness while strengthening **rural economies**.

The AGRITOCRACY project will not only transform Liberia's agricultural sector but also contribute significantly to regional food security, economic development, and job creation, making it a vital pillar of **West Africa's long-term sustainability strategy**.

9. Partnership & Collaboration

Successful execution of the AGRITOCRACY project depends on a **multi-stakeholder approach**, involving collaboration between **government entities, private sector investors, technical partners, and regional organizations**. The project has already established **strategic partnerships** with key stakeholders to ensure its smooth implementation and long-term viability.

Government and Public Sector Partnerships

- **Government of Liberia** – The Liberian government is a **primary stakeholder** in the project, providing **land allocations, regulatory support, and policy incentives** to facilitate agricultural development. This includes **60,000 hectares of concession farmland** in **Lofa, Bong, and Nimba Counties**.
- **Sierra Leone Government** – The project has secured **100,000 hectares of farmland** from the Sierra Leone government, reinforcing regional cooperation in food security.
- **ECOWAS and MRU (Mano River Union)** – The AGRITOCRACY project aligns with regional economic and agricultural policies, benefiting from **trade facilitation frameworks, food security initiatives, and cross-border agricultural integration programs**.

Private Sector and Financial Partnerships

- **Investment and Financial Institutions** – ADA Commercial Inc. is actively seeking **loan financing, equity investments, and grants** to support the project's \$300 million funding requirement.
- **Agribusiness Corporations** – The project aims to engage **agribusiness firms, seed producers, fertilizer manufacturers, and food processing companies** to strengthen the supply chain and enhance production efficiencies.

Technical and Research Collaborations

- **AGCO and Syngenta AG** – These leading agribusiness firms are providing **technical expertise, seed trials, soil analysis, and satellite mapping** to optimize production.
- **Africa Rice** – This research institution plays a key role in **rice breeding, adaptation trials, and agricultural best practices** to improve yield quality and resilience.

By fostering **cross-sector partnerships**, the AGRITOCRACY project is ensuring a **holistic and sustainable approach** to agricultural development, enabling **technological advancements, infrastructure improvements, and economic integration across the region**.

10. Conclusion & Call to Action

The AGRITOCRACY project represents a **transformative initiative** in Liberia's agricultural sector, with **wide-ranging economic, social, and environmental benefits**. The project directly **addresses the critical challenge of food insecurity**, reducing the country's dependence on imports and ensuring that **high-quality staple crops are produced locally at scale**.

With a **strong foundation of strategic partnerships, government support, and technical expertise**, the project is positioned for **successful implementation and long-term sustainability**. By leveraging **mechanized farming, climate-smart practices, and regional collaboration**, AGRITOCRACY is not only **boosting food production but also revitalizing rural economies, creating jobs, and enhancing trade** across Liberia and the broader ECOWAS region.

To achieve its full potential, the project seeks **active engagement from investors, financiers, donors, and development partners** who are committed to **sustainable agriculture and food security in West Africa**.

Why Invest in AGRITOCRACY?

- **Strong Market Demand:** The ECOWAS region has a **significant demand for locally-produced rice and staple crops**, ensuring a stable market for AGRITOCRACY's output.
- **Government and Policy Support:** Backed by **the Government of Liberia, Sierra Leone, ECOWAS, and Africa Rice**, ensuring regulatory and institutional stability.

- **Sustainable and Impact-Driven:** Contributes to **food security, employment, rural development, and climate resilience** in West Africa.
- **Technological Innovation:** Integrates **modern mechanization, precision farming, and climate adaptation strategies** for **efficient, high-yield agricultural production**.
- **Proven Expertise and Experience:** ADA Commercial Inc. has a **long history in agribusiness and regional partnerships**, ensuring **effective project management and execution**.

Next Steps

A **detailed business plan and investment prospectus** are available upon request. Interested stakeholders are encouraged to **engage in discussions regarding financing, partnership opportunities, and strategic collaborations**.

For further inquiries, investment discussions, or partnership proposals, please refer to the contact details below.

11. Contact Information

ADA Commercial Inc.

- **Head Office:** Tubman Blvd, Congo Town, Monrovia, Liberia
- **International Office:** 123 Town Square Place, Suite #166, Jersey City, NJ, USA
- **Phone:** +1 (771)-201-4412 / +231776796319 / +1(404) 433-2044
- **Email:** adacommgmt@gmail.com
- **Website:** www.adacommercial.com

This initiative presents a **unique investment opportunity** to drive sustainable agricultural development, reduce food insecurity, and create long-term economic impact across Liberia and West Africa.



**ADA
COMMERCIAL**

Thank You!

Together, we can cultivate a brighter future.



Website

WWW.ADACOMMERCIAL.COM



Phone

+1 (771)-201-4412



Location

Tubman Blvd, Congo
Town, P.O. Box 3024,
Monrovia, Liberia