Agriculture Research, Technology & Microfinancing:

We believe that the use of technology and agricultural research will improve the standard of living Africa enjoys today. To achieve this, FPI plans to establish cluster farming projects and regional agricultural research and educational centers for the transformation of food systems. These centers will also conduct research on technology for the agriculture value chain, soil science and conduct data collection, management and dissemination.

Skills and Knowledge Transfer through Technology:

The potential returns of capturing the opportunity to engage today's young people are in the challenges of raising agricultural production and should be supported if the world wants to achieve a **60 per cent** increase – in terms of food security, poverty reduction, employment generation, as well as peace and political stability which are key in promoting sustainable development by the year **2050**. Investments in the education and training of young rural people are key and will allow the achievement of skills and knowledge transfer from the elderly to the younger generations, and can further reduce the challenges associated with adopting sustainable, climate-smart production methods and linking up with marketing opportunities in modern value chains.

Research-based approach:

The advent of mobile application development has allowed farmers to work in a more efficient manner. These mobile applications also play a major role in lowering down the costs involved in production. They also enable the farmers to grow better crops, and in turn, get better revenues and improve their livelihoods. FPI will use this as a strategy to bring young people into the agriculture value chain, as the current farming activities in Africa are considered a thing for elderly people.

Integration of technology:

FPI will set up a mobile agriculture app development space using the mAgri concept, this is a user-centric design process that focuses on engaging farmers at any stage of product development, from the early moments of identifying opportunities and generating concepts, to advanced stages of product realization, execution, and scaling. This shall be done in mobile hubs and incubation centers in all the countries it has its operations.

The development of tailor-made agricultural mobile applications by youths will be a job creation strategy, as well as a way to help Africa grow and process its own food using less environmental friendly resources for a sustainable agriculture value chain, and will also provide farmers with cheaper ways of communication that will further link them with the global agriculture data and markets. To support our agricultural digital tools, FPI will join hands with Hunter's software and mobile app development, Microsoft, Google and other technology companies

JUSTIFICATION OF TECHNOLOGY AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO PRO-POOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Youth participation in agriculture:

This happening will make the world avert the worst challenges in human history that it is currently sitting on. Funding and directing investments in the integration of science and technologies in the agriculture sector will enable young people to have alike and to take part in the reversal of this calamity as well as the <u>effects of climate</u> <u>change on agriculture</u>. Research and implementation of smart and best agricultural practices in their countries is the right path to take now.

Microfinance for Smallholders Builds a Strong Agriculture base in the rural areas:

Smallholder farmers:

Being at the heart of many developing and low-income economies, the economic centrality of smallholders makes them extremely important for catalyzing broad-based economic growth. They are sometimes considered to be the grass root of the economy. One key tool in improving smallholder productivity is in the rapidly growing area of <u>microfinance</u>, which refers to the provision of financial services to poor and low-income people. The advocates of microfinance suggest that it will highlight more opportunities for farmers or the poor to improve their productivity and, hence, quality of life. Smallholder agriculture has not paid much attention to microfinance institutions (MFIs) in the past, but during the last few years, the role of MFIs in advancing smallholders' agriculture has become increasingly significant.

As key food producers in developing countries, an increase in smallholder agricultural production means more food enters the marketplace, leading to lower food prices and better diets; we must understand that the key link between agricultural policy and food prices involves a range of supply-and-demand factors, read more <u>here.</u>

Areas of need:

Urgent partnerships are required in the setting up of Agriculture research stations and Agriculture<u>-Mobile app development and incubation laboratories</u>, supply of tech equipment such:

- Mobile phones and other digital tools for farmers across Africa rural areas,
- Capacity building and provision of equipment to farmers on smart farming, hydroponics technology,
- Intensive tillage,
- Monoculture, biological pests control systems,
- Irrigation technologies,
- Setting up of soil science research centers.
- All our farming activities should be technologically based, be connected to international markets, agriculture data gathering and management facilities across the world