Domestication of edible wild insects on the farm: The potential for complementing future diets, generating employment, and managing waste.

**Introduction**

Domestication of edible insects and worms for food, stock feeds, soil fertility, and waste management provides an opportunity to address the traditional focus on the agricultural crop production and animal husbandry. The exploration of beneficial insects, both native and alien, has been ongoing, and this project aims to develop a model that allows for the production of stock feeds, conversion of urban waste into organic manure, generation of proteins for human consumption, and income generation. This is against the background of cattle being some of the leading contributors of greenhouse gases (GHGs), contributing approximately 11 billion tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) per year, and representing 14.5 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions globally. This situation is exacerbated by the lack of dietary diversity, characterized by unbalanced diets and high levels of malnutrition, with some children suffering from stunting due to malnutrition. The impacts of unbalanced diets are further exacerbated by the lack of dietary diversity, characterized by high levels of malnutrition, with some children suffering from stunting due to malnutrition. The adoption of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) in 2003, and its successor, the Malabo Declaration on 'Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods' have signalled a heightened intention by Africa to address the problem of stunting, a manifestation of malnutrition.

**Objectives**

1. **Transformed agriculture and food systems through the development and implementation of evidence-based policy;**
2. **Address youth rural-urban migration by stimulating micro enterprise hubs at local level where young people can be active drivers of change.**
3. **Unemployment among young people, poverty among women will be addressed through the insect value chains in target countries.**
4. **New private enterprises forming vibrant markets for insect and worm products.**
5. **An enabling policy environment to regulate activities in this new sector.**
6. **Improved fish production and productivity (available fish feed from insect).**
7. **Improved income levels among the targeted rural poor.**
8. **Improved waste management.**
9. **Improved growth in children (contributing to reduction in stunting).**
10. **Decent job created among women and youth (driving the value-chains).**

**Expected Outputs, Outcomes, and Impact**

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<tr>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Impact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organic fertiliser produced from insect breaking down waste</td>
<td>Improved waste management</td>
<td>Enviromental sustainability</td>
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**Questions for Consideration**

- How can we scale up the production of edible insects and worms on the farm?
- What are the potential benefits of scaling up the production of edible insects and worms on the farm?
- How can we address the knowledge gaps in youth and women that limits their participation in productive agriculture value chains?
- What are the potential economic benefits of the project?
- How can we ensure sustainable production and distribution of edible insects and worms?