

Feed the Future Innovation for the Reduction of Post-Harvest Loss

Newsletter – September 2021

Fourth Quarter – Year end 2021 Newsletter highlights the following PHLIL project activities:

Headlines:

- PHLIL field visits to Nigeria and Ghana to promote ZeroFly Hermetic storage solution
- Arc'teryx set-up in Ghana Nov/Dec 2021
- Meeting w/ Accra mayor's team from the recent trip
- PHLIL sponsored and participated in The Third All Africa Post-Harvest Congress and Exhibition

PHLIL field visits to Nigeria and Ghana to promote ZeroFly® Hermetic storage solution:

PHLIL team visits ZeroFly® Hermetic bags manufacturer in Nigeria to stimulate the supply chain for the storage bag and show support for the collaboration between suppliers and distributors. PHLIL committed 100,000 ZeroFly® Hermetic bag to be advanced to Agri-Commercial Service Ltd. based in Ghana to induce the distribution market of this newly developed hermetic bag. The revenue generated in the sale of these ZeroFly® Hermetic bags will be allocated to PHLIL’s small holder farmers as a stimulus to the local production systems.

Women in Poultry Associate in Northern Ghana, Tamale area and leading poultry producer groups in Dorma region have embodied the benefits of hard work and endurance. Their quest for maize in the Northeast/Bolgatanga region has opened a market for their poultry and egg production for the Northern Ghanaian. Trucks carrying maize from the Northern regions to the poultry hangers are returning with fresh eggs to be sold on the local markets. Women in Poultry Association are not only acquiring clean and well-preserved maize to feed their chickens, but they are also providing clean feed to other smaller poultry and egg producers in their region.

The support of USAID Ghana mission has been instrumental to the success of this endeavors. Gloria Odoom and Lily Kenny have participated in many PHLIL organized field visits and met with project collaborators and beneficiaries to discuss technology adaptation and availability to women and small-holder farmers and how PHLIL-Ghana is playing a key role in introducing such game changing technologies.



Figure 1: George being shown the single layer Zerofly® Hermetic (ZFH) bag by Russell (left) and Kevin (right). The ZFH single layer bags are being produced at the Bagco Lagos Factory. 22 May 2021



Figure 2: Gloria making comments about the good quality of maize stored in a ZeroFly® Hermetic (ZFH) bag at T.K. Takyi Farms storehouse (left). From L-R, Anna, Gloria, and Namah awed by the good quality of maize stored in a ZFH bag (right). 20 July 2021.

During the most recent visit to Ghana in November 2021, PHLIL-Ghana and the Management Entity with collaboration with Arc'teryx industries installed a model of the Arc'teryx Tent Dryer at the [Kwame Nkruma University of Science and Technology](#) (KNUST) in Kumasi, Ghana. The Arc'teryx Tent Dryer has been proven effective in drying maize in Ethiopia and is in the scaling phase in that country. In Ghana, a university student will conduct efficiency and adaptation tests with the dryer and provide recommendations on integrating and scaling of this technology into the everyday life of the small holder farmers and rural entrepreneurs.



Figure 3: Fully assembled Arc'teryx tent dryer on campus at Kwame Nkruma University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana 12/2021 – Photo by Michael Friend, PHLIL EAC board member

While in Accra, Ghana; the PHLIL team was invited to meet with the office of the mayor to present its project and discuss potential future collaboration with the city. Representative from the mayor's office emphasized that Accra is seeking better way to develop urban food system to feed its growing population and remediate in desolate problem of food waste and lost while there is hunger and malnutrition devastating the people of Accra. PHLIL is eagerly following the progress of this idea of collaboration with city of Accra and will share new information when available.



Figure 4: Left: Mike Friend, Jagger Harvey and Bob Zeigler - meeting with representative of Accra (Ghana) Mayor's office representative – Photo by Dr. George Opit, PI of PHLIL-Ghana

In September 2021, PHILIL sponsored the [Third All Africa Post-Harvest Congress and Exhibition](#), a virtual event hosted by the commission of the African Union and organized by the [University of Nairobi](#) in Kenya. A side event on Post Harvest Loss Reduction in Africa was animated by PHILIL and included other Innovation Labs working to mitigate post-harvest losses in developing countries. Questions around Food waste and loss, climate change animated the conversations