

aBi/GCEO/01118/20

24th March 2020

Dear our esteemed partner,

MEASURES TO MANAGE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Uganda confirmed its 9th case of COVID-19 on 23rd March 2020 and Government of Uganda has put in place progressive measures aimed at protecting Ugandans and limiting the impact of the pandemic. As you are already aware, the pandemic has caused serious business disruptions both domestically and globally. aBi has put in place a Business Continuity Plan (BCP) that is guiding the way we operate in this time of uncertainty to limit the potential negative impact on our staff, partners, contractors and the wider public.

At aBi we are committed to our vision of a competitive, profitable and sustainable agriculture and agribusiness sector in support of equitable wealth creation in Uganda. Therefore, we plan to continue supporting our partners and grantees during this time however, guided by these BCP measures.

- i) All work-related travels within Uganda and abroad have been suspended (including trainings and conferences), in line with the Government's directives.
- ii) aBi staff will not be working at full capacity as some will be working remotely to curb decongestion. However, they can be accessed through the official emails and mobile phones.
- iii) Immediate suspension of all group activities like training engagements by IPs and orientations for IPs.
- iv) External visits to aBi by IPs have been suspended.
- v) Credit/ grant applications and disbursements shall be undertaken but under careful consideration of the criticality of the activities and likelihood they will continue without any delays. aBi is minimizing disbursements to only what is absolutely necessary (e.g. salaries) owing to the fact that most activities cannot be implemented in this period.
- vi) Immediate suspension of all stakeholder engagements (seminars and meetings) between aBi and IPs.
- vii) Prioritization of critical work assignments and interaction with other external parties that aBi is working with to complete the assignments on schedule but using more remote or desk based approaches.

These measures will be in place until the situation normalizes as and when determined by Government. However, in the event a national lockdown is declared by Government, grant applications and disbursements shall be immediately suspended.

We therefore, encourage you to be prudent with resource management, plan accordingly and inform us of any envisioned challenges to the delivery of your project because of this development. In addition we encourage you to keep safe and observe safety measures recommended by government.

As part of our COVID-19 Business Continuity Plan, we intend to work remotely in order to continue serving you. We will continue monitoring the situation and adapt our approach as necessary, but most importantly, secure the safety of our staff, partners and contractors whilst ensuring limited business disruption.

We also hope that these measures can inform your own response plan. For any additional information on aBi's response, please email: george.mutagubya@abi.co.ug contact: **0776-642000**

Sincerely,



Mona Ssebuliba-Muguma
Ag. Group CEO

c.c.: Chairperson, aBi Board