

June 19th, 2017

Sahel Capital Closes Fund for Agricultural Finance in Nigeria (FAFIN) at \$65.9 Million

Sahel Capital, fund manager for the Fund for Agricultural Finance in Nigeria (“FAFIN”), is pleased to announce the successful \$65.9 million final close of its debut fund. As part of this close, the African Development Bank, CDC Group, and the Dutch Good Growth Fund have jointly committed \$31 million to FAFIN, joining existing co-sponsors of the fund to drive agricultural transformation in Nigeria.

As part of this round, KfW Development Bank has also offered to increase its commitments to FAFIN by an additional \$10 million, subject to final approvals, which if provided would increase the fund size to \$76 million by December 2017.

FAFIN was co-sponsored by the Federal Government of Nigeria (*Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Federal Ministry of Finance*), the German development bank – KfW, and the Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority (“NSIA”), and was initially launched in 2014 with \$32.8 million in commitments.

Sahel Capital intends to invest these funds over the next two years backing sustainable businesses that seek to revolutionize the Nigerian agribusiness landscape while creating jobs, improving productivity, and strengthening priority value chains.

Speaking on the final close of FAFIN, Mezuo Nwuneli, Managing Partner at Sahel Capital said: “We are especially grateful to the immense commitment and support we have received from our existing investors in making FAFIN a reality. We also look forward to partnering with our incoming investors to driving catalytic growth in the sector through our partnerships with strong agribusinesses.”

Since FAFIN’s launch in 2014, Sahel Capital has assessed over 100 companies and elected to invest in four indigenous high growth companies. Through these investments in the dairy, edible oils, poultry and cassava value chains of Nigeria, FAFIN has created over 500 new jobs - 50% of which are occupied by women and youth - and improved the lives of over 1,000 small holder farmers and their families by supporting innovative business incentives and out-grower schemes.

With the additional capital raised, Sahel Capital aims to invest in 9 – 10 additional companies which would create over 4,000 more direct and indirect jobs, and further uplift the lives of over 36,000 smallholder farmer families across Nigeria.

About FAFIN and Sahel Capital

FAFIN is a private equity fund that provides financial, capacity-building, and technical assistance to selected SMEs in the Nigerian agribusiness sector. Investors in FAFIN include the African Development Bank, DFID Impact Fund (*managed by CDC Group*), Dutch Good Growth Fund (*managed by Triple Jump*), the Federal Government of Nigeria, KfW Development Bank, and the Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority. FAFIN is managed by Sahel Capital, an agribusiness focused private equity firm established in 2010.

For more information please contact:

Mr. Mezuo Nwuneli, Managing Partner, Sahel Capital Agribusiness Managers Ltd.:
mnwuneli@sahelcp.com / www.sahelcp.com.