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## How Many Farmers Does Africa Need?

(The article is discussing Global Problems while using Africa as a Case Study)

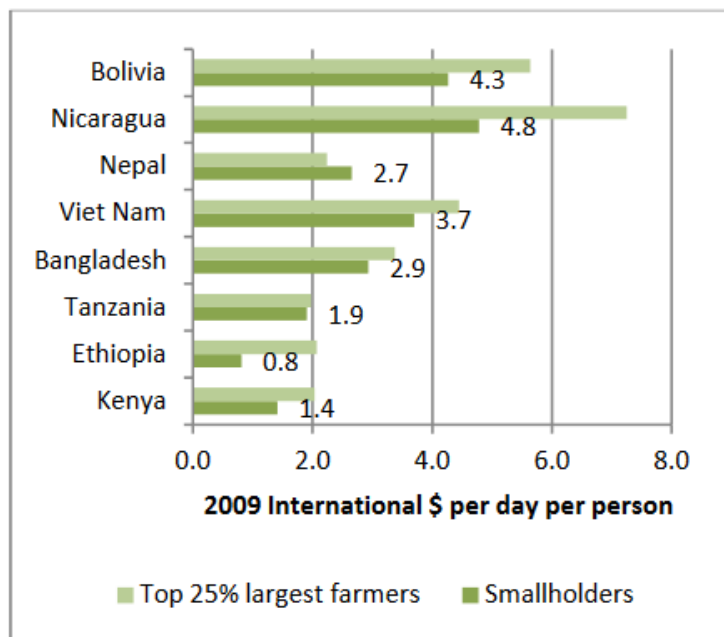
Asking 'how many farmer Africa needs', or for that matter, any continent/country needs, is the same as asking 'how many doctors, lawyers, engineers, schools, hospitals, etc., are needed?'

The answer depends on what do you wish to achieve.

### Smallholder Farmers

*"About two-thirds of the developing world's 3 billion rural people live in about 475 million small farm households, working on land plots smaller than 2 hectares.*

*Many are poor (earning less than 1.9 \$/day. N.I.) and food insecure and have limited access to markets and services."* (Source: [FAO](#))

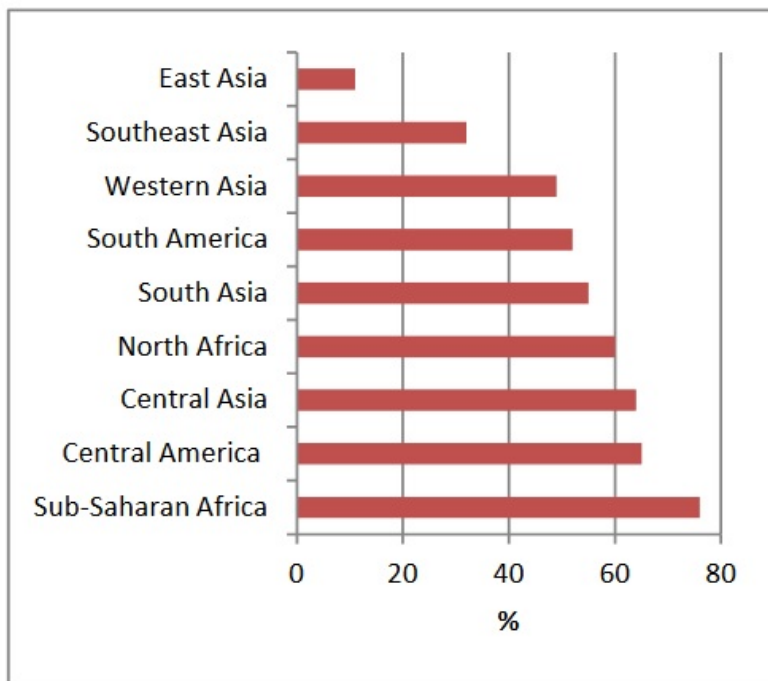


Income, \$ per person per day. *Source:* Smallholder Farmers' DataPortrait.

The bottom line to notice and remember is that today; "*many are poor*", and "*food insecure*". This is not the kind of life level we would like to see for them and others.

Analyzing deeper the situation, we further learned that, "*today, smallholders produce most of the food consumed in the developing world but their productivity growth has **slowed down** and is generally lagging...*

**The gap** between small farmers' yields and technical potential yields – the ones achieved with the latest varieties and under the best conditions – reflects the largely suboptimal use of inputs and insufficient adoption of most productive technologies." (Source: [FAO](#))



Yield gap. Source FAO (2011)

To fully grasp the extent of the gap, we should add to that the 'yield gap' is creating a huge 'income gap'.

'Income gap' is the difference in income per kg a farmer received in a developed country versus undeveloped country. That difference can be in the magnitudes of 10 and even 100 times!

That explains why very often the ratio of small-holders' poverty is higher than the national ratio.

## The Two Economic Paths

One option is to continue current economic policies towards agriculture and smallholders.

In this case, we know the results we can expect, which will not be different from the current poverty situation.

The other option is to *Intensify and Industrialize Agriculture*, by focusing on specific agricultural sectors, which has the highest potential for economic development.

Part of the economic development is realizing the agricultural export potential, and its ability to bring in foreign currency.

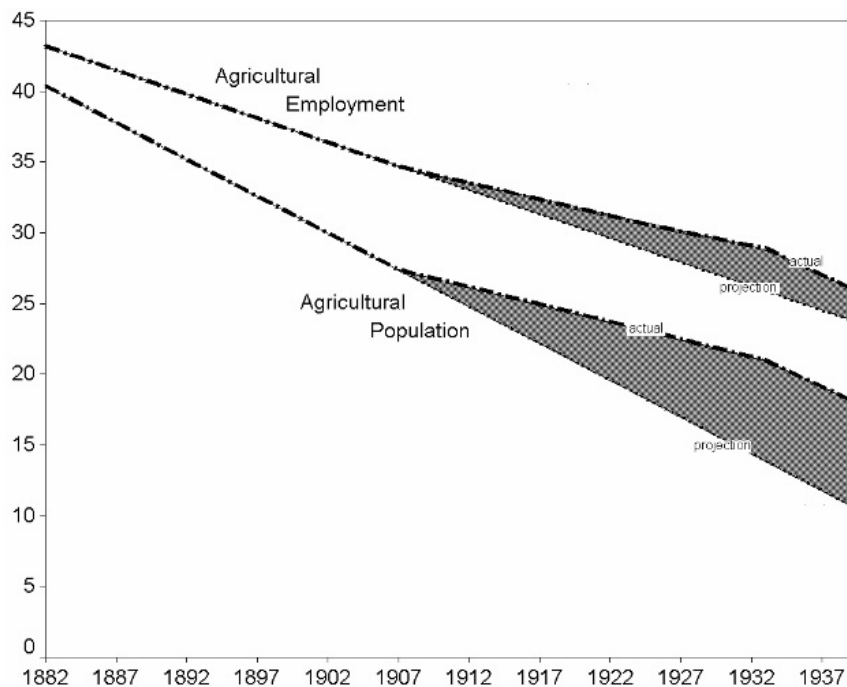
In this case, the focus will not be limited to the farmers alone, but to the entire value chain that will enable the promotion of the industry, such as R&D, organization, logistics, regulation, and marketing.

This will create a strong and lively agricultural sector, something that others would like to copy.

## The German Example

Germany is a leading agricultural country, situated in the heart of Europe. So let us take it as an example of successful historical development of an agricultural sector.

In 1882, over 40% of the Germany population was engaged in agriculture.



Structural change in the German Economy, 1882-1939. Source: [Germany 1870-1939](#)

Fifty years later, that number has dropped to 20% only.

And today? Less than 2% of the Germans are farmers.

	Persons		
	2000*	2010	Change (%)
Direct Labour Force	:	:	:
Regular Labour Force	1 017 990	749 740	-26.4
Family labour force	827 060	577 390	-30.2
Non family labour force, employed on a regular basis, incl. group holders	190 930	172 360	-9.7
Labour force, employed on a non regular basis	:	:	:
Labour force, not directly employed by the holding	:	:	:

\* The 2000 data presented in the table were filtered using the 2010 threshold

Less than 2% of Germans are farmers. Agricultural labor force DE 2000 and 2010. Source: [Eurostat](#)

Does Germany suffer from hunger or food shortages?

Has the German economy weakened because of the drop in the number of farmers?

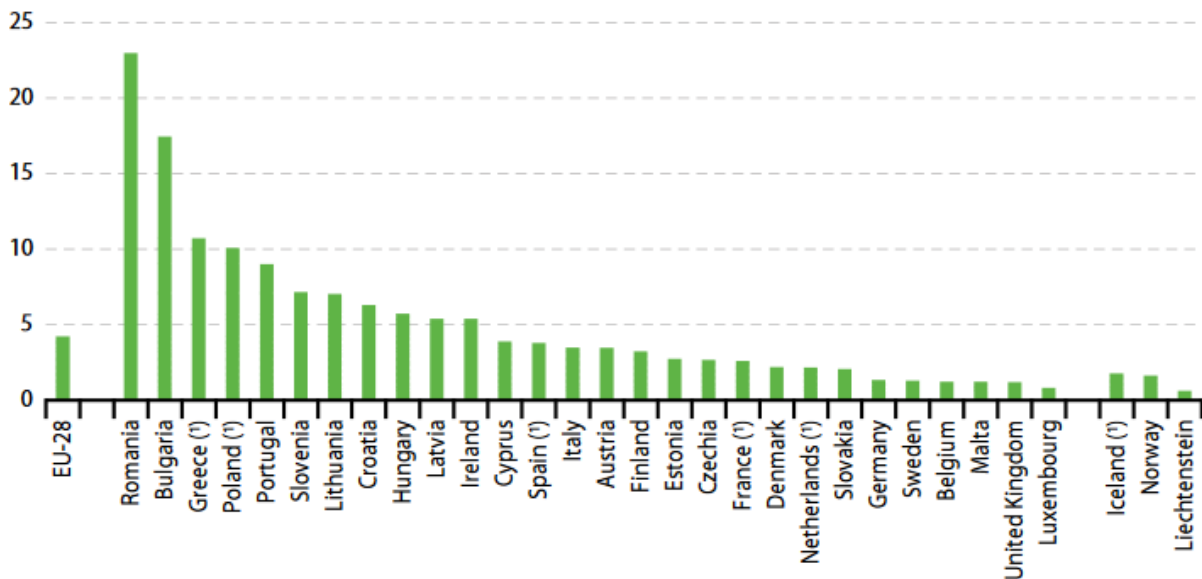
Did unemployment rise as a result?

It is clear to everyone that the answer to these questions is negative.

Germany represents advanced agriculture and is no exception.

In general, the average rate of employment in agriculture does not exceed 5% in EU countries.

The more developed the agriculture, the lower the rate of farmers.



Employment in agriculture, 2016 (% of total employment). The lowest percentage of agricultural employment exists in the more developed countries or countries in which agriculture is a non-significant sector. Source: [Eurostat](#)

## **Israel**

In 1950 most of Israel's farmers were smallholders, owning and working 2-3 hectares only. Seventy years later, today, a typical Israeli farmer cultivate 5 to 50 hectares, with few farms over 100 hectares.

In 2019 less than 0.5% of Israel's workforce are farmers. From here, you can conclude how developed Israel's agriculture is.

Yet, there is no shortage of food, the Israeli economy is strong, stable.

Thanks to the export-oriented marketing approach, Israeli farmers produce well beyond the local market needs and requirements, hence bringing desired foreign currency, and prosperity to farmers and related industries.

## **Why Can't Africa Follow the German and Israeli Example?**

It is not an easy task, changing the agricultural sector is changing the economy.

This dramatic task requires long term vision, perseverance, and leadership at the highest level.

I believe that a strong agricultural sector is mandatory and positive for all agrarian countries.

It is clear that the transition is hard and risky, especially if you don't have your own – experienced and tested - 'Road Map'.

That change conducting 'Road Map' is what I call – a Model.

To facilitate the transition Biofeed created the *Green Valley National Export Project* (GVNEP), model.

It is designed to enable the transition ***from low-yield, poor-quality to high-yield, high quality, export-oriented economy!***

This article was inspired by a post I recently published on the same topic, as part of ***The Agricultural Gap*** video series. [Link to YouTube, chapter 7](#). Subscribe to be notified of new videos.

For more information on GVNEP >> [press here](#) <<.

*For a greener world  
Free of sprays  
Full of joy*

See you soon,

Nimrod



## **Better produce... Better future... Biofeed...**

### **P.S.**

Earlier this week first mango orchards in Ghana received fruit fly protection for the Minor Season. It was a true carnival and farmers were very excited (and so did I).

There is a limited stoke for the coming year, enough for 2% only of the growers.

Supply is on a "first-come, first receive" basis.

For more information call Victor (Ghana) +233-20-049-2048 / +233-24-578-0679, or email – [biokovictor1@gmail.com](mailto:biokovictor1@gmail.com).

### **P.P.S.**

"How do I bring Biofeed *Green Valley* to my country?"

There are several necessary steps before we can launch a *Green Valley National Export Project* in your country. These steps include:

1. Biofeed *FreeDome* regulation, adjustment to specific market needs, conditions, and marketing.
2. Direct contact with the country central government for the establishment of a Biofeed-Government direct link and cooperation to create a joint work plan according to the government's vision and commitment and the project plans.

### 3. Launch of the *Green Valley* program

That is it; easy and fast! Isn't it simple with [wonderful results](#)?!

#### **P.P.P.S.**

It is good to keep in mind that –

1. Biofeed *Green Valley* focuses on **National Projects**.
2. Biofeed *Green Valley* is about promoting **exports** of high quality produce to high-value markets.
3. *Green Valley* is not a charity program. It is **business-oriented**, which is exactly why it will do well for all involved and mainly for the growers.
4. *Green valley* – by combining the needs of countries to advance their agriculture and by providing education and partnership brings an added value to all and offers fulfillment of the world food market-demand for more, high-quality, fresh fruits.
5. By applying Biofeed *Green Valley*, we add the Israeli experience and ability to assist farmers to grow higher-yields and higher-quality. But that is not all.
6. *Green Valley* emphasizes and focuses on growing (mainly) for Export Markets, so the exporting countries will also see a flow of foreign currency, which is so needed for the developing economy.

Find here a link to some more information about Biofeed *FreeDome* and Biofeed *Green Valley* [>>> link <<](#).

#### **P.P.P.P.S.** - Frequent asked questions (FAQ) –

\* **Will I need to pay before start marketing?** Yes. Regulation and Marketing takes time and costs money. Besides, there is a payment to Biofeed according to our standard distribution agreement. Although Biofeed's investment in time, knowhow and goods is substantial, you practically get it for free and the only payment to Biofeed is for future goods order.

\* **How much time does it take until the regulation is over?** Well. That varies between different countries. Our shortest experience is 4 months only, but in some places, it may take years. Still, there are countries where wide infield testing and education are allowed during the registration process. We recommend you to find out the situation in your country before contacting us.

**\* I have no prior experience as a distributor; can I still be your distributor in my country?**  
Yes. Biofeed unique method of marketing and distributing enables investors to collaborate with us even with no prior experience as distributors.

**\* I have no money. Can I serve as Biofeed's distributor?** Yes, if you manage to get the required financing that is required.

**\* I want to know more about your technology and results...** [>> link <<](#).

*Change begins with a decision that the existing reality  
is a choice and not a decree of fate*