TEKETEKE SACCO | INAUGURAL CHAIRMAN'S PUBLICATION

Bridging the Green Finance Gap

Financing the Future of Smart Agriculture and Electric Mobility in Africa

A Vision Statement by Eng. Chesebeh Richard
Chairman and Vision Bearer – Teketeke SACCO

FINANCING A GREENER FUTURE.
EMPOWERING SMART AGRICULTURE.

Executive Introduction: The Missing Link in Africa's Agricultural Transformation

Africa's agricultural transformation will depend not only on the technologies available to farmers and cooperatives, but also on the financial systems that enable those technologies to be acquired, deployed and sustained.

Across the continent, agricultural communities face a persistent challenge: the gap between productive opportunity and access to appropriate finance. Farmers require modern equipment, reliable transportation, efficient energy systems and improved agricultural infrastructure. Dairy cooperative societies need productive assets that can reduce operating expenditure and strengthen their ability to serve members. Emerging green enterprises require investment capital, while manufacturers and technology providers need viable routes through which their solutions can reach the market.

Yet these participants frequently operate in separate economic and financial environments. The result is a disconnect between innovation, investment and the productive needs of communities. Electric mobility technologies are emerging. Local manufacturing and assembly capabilities are developing. Agricultural cooperatives are increasingly recognising the potential of more efficient transportation. However, the financing structures, institutional linkages and financial literacy required to support widespread adoption have not always developed at the same pace.

This is the green finance gap.

Introducing electric vehicles into agricultural communities is not, by itself, sufficient to transform agricultural operations. The transition requires a wider ecosystem capable of connecting manufacturers, cooperatives, farmers, financial institutions, investors and development partners. It requires financial products that respond to productive needs, institutions that understand the realities of cooperative economies, and members who are equipped to make informed financial decisions.

Teketeke Savings and Credit Society Limited (Teketeke SACCO) is founded on the conviction that this connection is essential. Our vision is to help build an integrated financial environment in which green mobility and smart agriculture can become economically accessible, commercially sustainable and institutionally supported.

We believe that the future of African agriculture will be shaped by the ability to connect technology with finance, knowledge with investment, and productive communities with institutions capable of mobilising resources.

1. Understanding the Green Finance Gap

Green finance is increasingly important to the transition towards sustainable economic development. However, the availability of green technologies does not automatically translate into widespread adoption.

A dairy cooperative may recognise the benefits of electric motorcycles for milk collection and rural transportation but lack a suitable financing arrangement to acquire them. A farmer may understand the value of modern agricultural equipment but have limited access to appropriately structured financial resources. A manufacturer may have the technical capacity to assemble electric mobility products locally but still require stronger connections with institutional buyers and financing partners.

These are not simply technology challenges. They are financial-linkage challenges.

Traditional financing arrangements may not always adequately reflect the operating cycles, cash-flow patterns and investment requirements of agricultural cooperatives. Similarly, emerging green enterprises may require financing structures that recognise the productive and environmental value of the assets being deployed.

The gap is therefore multidimensional. It involves access to capital, financial literacy, institutional coordination, appropriate financial products and the capacity to assess productive investments.

For Africa, this presents both a challenge and an opportunity. If financing can be connected to productive agricultural activity, technology adoption can contribute to stronger enterprises, more resilient cooperatives and improved economic participation. If financial institutions, manufacturers and agricultural organisations work together, the benefits of innovation can extend beyond individual assets and contribute to broader institutional development.

Teketeke SACCO seeks to contribute to this transformation by developing the financial relationships and institutional linkages needed to support green mobility and smart agriculture.

2. The Teketeke SACCO Response: Five Interconnected Pillars

A. Green Finance

Green finance provides a pathway through which sustainable technologies and environmentally responsible economic activities can access appropriate financial resources. Teketeke SACCO seeks to support financial opportunities associated with electric mobility, energy-efficient operations and sustainable agricultural development. The objective is to encourage financing approaches that recognise the productive purpose of green assets and the economic benefits they may generate. This requires responsible product development, appropriate risk assessment, financial discipline and collaboration with relevant licensed financial partners.

B. Financial Linkages

The green economy cannot develop effectively if its participants remain disconnected. Teketeke SACCO seeks to build relationships between agricultural cooperatives, electric mobility manufacturers, commercial banks, development finance institutions, investors, suppliers and other relevant stakeholders. These relationships can help identify viable projects, connect demand with supply, improve access to financing and create opportunities for institutional cooperation. Our ambition is to act as a financial and institutional bridge, helping participants identify complementary interests and develop appropriate pathways for collaboration.

C. Financial Literacy

Access to finance must be accompanied by the knowledge required to use it responsibly. Cooperative leaders, farmers, members and entrepreneurs need to understand savings, investment, credit, financial planning, cash-flow management and the risks associated with different financing arrangements. Financial literacy is particularly important when considering productive assets such as electric motorcycles and agricultural equipment. Members must be able to evaluate acquisition costs, operating expenses, maintenance requirements, expected utilisation and the financial obligations associated with financing. Teketeke SACCO seeks to make financial education an important part of its institutional development agenda.

D. Smart Agriculture Financing

Agricultural productivity increasingly depends on access to modern equipment, efficient logistics, improved infrastructure and appropriate technology. Teketeke SACCO seeks to facilitate financial opportunities that support productive agricultural investments, dairy value chains, modern agricultural technologies and energy-efficient systems. The intention is to connect agricultural needs with financial resources through partnerships and financing arrangements that are appropriate to the circumstances of participating institutions and members.

E. Electric Mobility Financing

Transportation is an essential part of agricultural productivity. Electric motorcycles and other appropriate electric mobility solutions can support milk collection, agricultural logistics, rural transport and commercial operations. However, adoption requires more than product availability. It requires financing pathways that allow eligible users and institutions to acquire and operate productive assets responsibly. Teketeke SACCO seeks to facilitate access to electric mobility opportunities by connecting members, cooperatives, manufacturers and suitable financing partners.

3. From Technology to Economic Transformation: The Manufacturing Milestone

The development of local electric mobility assembly capacity represents an important foundation for Kenya's green industrialisation journey.

Through the work undertaken by Lunghou Group and the Teketeke electric mobility brand, electric two-wheel mobility has been connected with local assembly and distribution activities and the practical transportation requirements of agricultural and cooperative operations.

This development is significant because the long-term value of electric mobility extends beyond the introduction of a new mode of transportation. Local assembly can contribute to the development of industrial capabilities, technical knowledge and supporting supply chains. It can create opportunities for skills development and employment while strengthening the relationship between technology providers and the communities that use their products.

For agricultural cooperatives, the availability of electric mobility solutions designed for practical operating conditions creates an opportunity to reconsider transportation costs and operational efficiency. For the wider economy, developing local assembly capabilities can support technology transfer, encourage industrial participation and reduce dependence on imported finished products over time.

The Teketeke electric mobility initiative provides a practical connection between manufacturing and agricultural needs. It demonstrates the importance of developing technologies with real operating environments in mind, including rural roads, agricultural logistics and the daily transportation requirements of cooperative societies.

For Teketeke SACCO, this manufacturing foundation is particularly relevant. Technology creates the productive opportunity; appropriate finance can help make that opportunity accessible to a wider range of participants. Our ambition is to connect these two dimensions.

4. Dairy Cooperatives and the Experience of Electric Mobility

Dairy cooperative societies occupy an important position in agricultural value chains. They connect farmers to milk collection, transportation, processing and markets. Their operational efficiency has direct implications for the services they provide to members.

Transportation is one of the costs that can influence the financial performance of dairy operations. Fuel expenditure, maintenance, vehicle utilisation and the reliability of transport arrangements all affect the resources available to cooperatives.

The introduction of Teketeke electric mobility solutions into dairy and agricultural operations offers an opportunity to examine how transportation technology can contribute to operational efficiency.

The reported experience from participating operations indicates that operating-cost reductions of up to 80% have been achieved in particular cases. This figure should be understood as a reported operational outcome, not a universal industry benchmark or a guaranteed saving. Actual results depend on the operating environment, the previous transportation arrangement, distance travelled, utilisation, energy costs, maintenance requirements and other relevant factors.

Nevertheless, the reported experience points to an important economic possibility. Where electric mobility reduces operating expenditure, a cooperative may be able to retain more of its financial resources. Those resources can potentially support member services, strengthen reserves, fund productive infrastructure and improve institutional resilience.

The significance is therefore not limited to the vehicle or the immediate transportation saving. It concerns what a cooperative can do with the financial resources released through improved operational efficiency.

This is where technology adoption and financial mobilisation begin to intersect.

5. From Cost Savings to Cooperative Wealth Creation

A cooperative's economic strength is influenced by its ability to generate value, manage expenditure, preserve financial resources and reinvest in activities that benefit its members.

When an institution reduces recurring operating costs, it may create additional capacity to strengthen its financial position. For example, savings arising from more efficient transportation may potentially be redirected towards improved collection infrastructure, member services, equipment, reserves or other productive investments. The exact allocation will depend on the cooperative's governance, financial position and priorities.

This is why electric mobility should not be viewed merely as a transport innovation. It can form part of a wider cooperative economic transformation strategy.

However, cost savings do not automatically become institutional wealth. They must be properly measured, recorded, managed and allocated. Cooperative leadership must understand the financial implications of technology adoption, and members must appreciate the relationship between operational efficiency and long-term institutional development.

Teketeke SACCO seeks to support this process by linking technology adoption with financial planning, financial literacy, savings mobilisation and access to appropriate financial resources.

The objective is to encourage a disciplined approach in which productive investments contribute to stronger financial institutions and improved economic opportunities for members. Our focus is not simply to facilitate the introduction of electric mobility into agricultural communities. It is to help strengthen the economic institutions that serve those communities.

6. Creating a Homogeneous Green Finance Environment

One of the central challenges facing the green economy is fragmentation. Manufacturers develop technologies. Cooperatives require productive assets. Farmers need access to modern agricultural solutions. Banks seek viable financing opportunities. Investors look for bankable projects. Development partners support sustainable development objectives, while government institutions establish policies and regulatory frameworks.

Each participant has an important role. Yet their activities do not always take place within a coordinated financial environment. This fragmentation can delay investment, limit access to technology and prevent otherwise viable opportunities from developing at scale.

Teketeke SACCO's institutional vision is to help bridge these gaps by encouraging a more interconnected green finance ecosystem.

In this environment, agricultural cooperatives should be able to communicate their productive needs and explore suitable financing pathways. Manufacturers and technology providers should be able to engage with institutional users and distribution partners. Banks and development finance institutions should have opportunities to assess properly structured projects. Investors and development partners should be able to engage with initiatives that have clearly defined objectives, governance arrangements and financial requirements.

Financial literacy must support every stage of this process. Institutions and members need the capacity to understand financing terms, evaluate risks, assess affordability and make informed decisions.

The SACCO's role is to facilitate these relationships responsibly. Teketeke SACCO is positioning itself as a financial facilitator and institutional bridge, working with licensed financial partners and relevant stakeholders within the applicable regulatory framework. This approach recognises that different financial activities may require different regulatory permissions, institutional capabilities and partnership structures.

The ultimate objective is to create an environment in which technology, productive investment and financial resources can move more effectively between the institutions and communities that need them.

7. The Chairman's Vision

A Message from Eng. Chesebeh Richard, Chairman and Vision Bearer

I believe Africa's agricultural future must be built on the intelligent application of modern technology, supported by accessible finance and strong cooperative institutions.

Our continent has enormous agricultural potential. Yet the ability of farmers and cooperatives to realise that potential depends on more than land, labour and markets. It also depends on transportation, productive equipment, energy efficiency, financial resources and the knowledge required to manage these resources effectively.

I have come to believe that electric mobility has an important role to play in this transformation. In agricultural communities, transportation is not simply about moving people from one place to another. It is about collecting milk, moving agricultural inputs, supporting rural enterprises and connecting producers with economic opportunities. When transportation becomes more efficient, the benefits can extend throughout the value chain.

The development of the Teketeke electric mobility initiative has reinforced my conviction that technology must be practical and responsive to the needs of the communities it is intended to serve.

However, I also recognise that technology without accessible finance will exclude many of the people who stand to benefit from it. A farmer may understand the value of an electric motorcycle but lack the financial resources to acquire one. A dairy cooperative may wish to improve its transportation efficiency but require an appropriate financing structure. A manufacturer may have the capacity to supply productive technology but need stronger institutional connections to reach its intended market.

These challenges cannot be addressed by individual institutions working in isolation.

This is why I believe the future requires a closer relationship between manufacturing, finance, agriculture and cooperative development. Financial literacy must be part of this relationship. Our members and partners should understand not only how to access financial services, but also how to evaluate investments, manage obligations and use productive assets to strengthen their economic position.

My vision for Teketeke SACCO is to help build an institution that connects these opportunities. I want us to contribute to a financial environment where cooperative societies, farmers, entrepreneurs, manufacturers, banks and development partners can identify shared interests and work towards practical solutions.

We must remain ambitious, but also responsible. Institutional credibility is built through sound governance, transparent communication, appropriate partnerships and the responsible management of financial resources.

Our journey is one of institution-building. We seek to establish Teketeke SACCO as a leading contributor to green finance for agriculture and electric mobility, while developing the relationships and capabilities required to support that ambition.

I believe that when finance becomes more closely connected to productive activity, the opportunities for cooperative development and economic transformation become greater. That is the future we are working towards.

8. The Way Forward: Building the Institutional Foundations

The development of an integrated green finance ecosystem requires deliberate and sustained institutional work. Teketeke SACCO's strategic direction is centred on eight areas:

1. Strengthening partnerships with dairy and agricultural cooperatives. Building relationships with cooperative societies and agricultural organisations to identify productive needs, explore mobility opportunities and develop appropriate institutional engagement.

2. Expanding financial literacy programmes. Supporting members, cooperative leaders, farmers and entrepreneurs with practical knowledge of savings, investment, financing and financial management.

3. Developing financial linkages with banks and development finance institutions. Exploring relationships with licensed financial institutions and development partners to identify suitable financing pathways and institutional collaboration opportunities.

4. Facilitating access to electric mobility solutions. Connecting eligible members, cooperatives and commercial users with appropriate electric mobility products and deployment opportunities.

5. Supporting smart agriculture and productive investment. Encouraging financial opportunities associated with agricultural technology, dairy value chains, productive equipment and efficient agricultural operations.

6. Building strategic partnerships with manufacturers, investors and technology providers. Strengthening institutional relationships that can connect technology supply, productive demand and appropriate financial resources.

7. Promoting cooperative savings and sustainable financial mobilisation. Encouraging responsible savings practices and the development of a stronger financial foundation for members and participating institutions.

8. Advocating for an enabling green finance environment. Engaging constructively with relevant stakeholders to support policies, partnerships and institutional arrangements that encourage sustainable finance in Kenya and across Africa.

These priorities represent a strategic direction, not a claim that every programme or financing arrangement is already operational. Their implementation will depend on institutional capacity, member participation, appropriate approvals and the development of suitable partnerships.

9. A Call to Partnership

The green transition requires collaboration. Dairy cooperative societies, agricultural organisations, farmers, agribusiness enterprises, commercial banks, development finance institutions, investors, manufacturers, government institutions and international development partners all have a role to play.

We invite these stakeholders to engage with Teketeke SACCO in identifying practical opportunities to connect green finance, smart agriculture and electric mobility.

We welcome dialogue on cooperative development, financial literacy, electric mobility deployment, productive agricultural investment, institutional financing linkages and sustainable savings mobilisation.

Our approach is based on partnership rather than isolation. We recognise that no single institution possesses all the resources, expertise and capabilities required to transform the agricultural economy. By connecting complementary strengths, we can create opportunities that are more inclusive, economically meaningful and sustainable.

We also recognise that trust is essential. Partnerships must be supported by clear responsibilities, sound governance, transparent financial arrangements and respect for applicable laws and regulatory requirements.

We therefore invite interested institutions and organisations to begin conversations with us, explore areas of mutual interest and consider how their capabilities can contribute to a stronger green finance ecosystem.

The opportunity before us is to move beyond disconnected initiatives and develop an institutional environment in which productive technology, financial resources and cooperative participation reinforce one another.

10. Our Institutional Philosophy

The future of agriculture will not be transformed by technology alone. It will be transformed when technology, finance, knowledge and cooperative institutions work together.

Teketeke SACCO exists to connect these elements, bridge the green finance gap and help build an inclusive financial ecosystem for smart agriculture and electric mobility.

We believe that the next stage of agricultural transformation must be supported by financial systems that recognise productive potential, institutions that encourage responsible investment and cooperative structures that enable communities to participate meaningfully in economic development.

Our ambition is to contribute to that future through responsible financial mobilisation, strategic partnerships, financial literacy and a commitment to connecting sustainable technology with productive economic activity.

The work ahead requires patience, discipline, collaboration and institutional integrity. It also requires the conviction that a more connected financial ecosystem can create opportunities for farmers, cooperatives, enterprises and the wider economy.

TEKETEKE SACCO

Financing a Greener Future. Empowering Smart Agriculture.

Published by:
Eng. Chesebeh Richard
Chairman and Vision Bearer
Teketeke SACCO