



**NAME:** Sarah Mukandutiye

**COUNTRY:** Rwanda

**AGE:** 41

**BUSINESS:** Shema Farm

### Bio information

When Sarah and her husband began farming in 1997, it was as a hobby, never envisioning it would grow to be her business. Her husband was a marketing practitioner before joining the army to fight in the liberation war; he is now a Lieutenant Colonel in the army. Sarah was a director in the ministry of finance and economic planning for eight (8) years and a finance officer for UNDP Rwanda country office for two (2) years before resigning to farm full-time.

As a dairy farmer who is also dedicated to improving her community, Sarah provides the surplus milk to extended family and friends. When a bull is born, she gives them away to people in her community. The positive and overwhelming response she has received convinced her and her husband to go commercial. What began as a way to meet her family's needs now encompasses an enterprise providing fresh, wholesome milk products, eggs, fruits and tomatoes.

Her vision is to create a sustainable, modern and model farming enterprise that can be reciprocated across rural Rwanda.

### Business information

Shema Farm now employs 17 permanent staff and between 60 to 100 part-time workers; it includes dairy farming, fruit and vegetable growing, as well as chicken rearing. Considering the average household in Rwanda is between five to eight members, the farm provides for close to 500 people in her small community. It sells milk to three dairy outlets, has three greenhouses and produces about 1,000 eggs per day.

Sarah is a 2007 PEACE THROUGH BUSINESS graduate.