

The Purdue Utility Project transportation and power solutions for Africa

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Abstract: Improving transportation and providing agricultural power through appropriate mechanized solutions can significantly increase agricultural production and reduce food insecurity in sub-Saharan Africa SSA. Many people in SSA primarily rely on manual methods of transportation and farming which limit capabilities and consume significant amounts of time and effort. The AgRover, developed by the Purdue Utility Project team PUP is an off-road multipurpose utility vehicle designed to provide affordable transportation while acting as a mobile platform for attachments and implements that increase farm production efficiency. The AgRovers sustainable design allows it to be built and serviced using resources that are commonly found in SSA. This utility vehicle has two models, a larger model AgRover and a smaller, lower cost, model field testing underway. Both models power multiple attachments and implements such as water pumps, maize grinders, cultivators, planters, and generators. Mobile Agricultural Power Solutions MAPS is a startup company that is scaling up the AgRover and bringing it to market in developing countries. Still in early stages, MAPS is focused on the Nigerian market, where they are locally manufacturing and selling the AgRover.