

Case Study: Ofi

Regenerative Agriculture in
onion and garlic



idh
transforming markets



Objective and approach

Ofi has been working in California to support regenerative agricultural practices for onion and garlic, as well as meadow and forest restoration.



Key objective



Achieve net zero by 2050



Support bringing 2 Mn ha under regenerative agricultural practices



Engage in 20 Living Landscapes



Interventions



Support implementation of regenerative onion and garlic practices

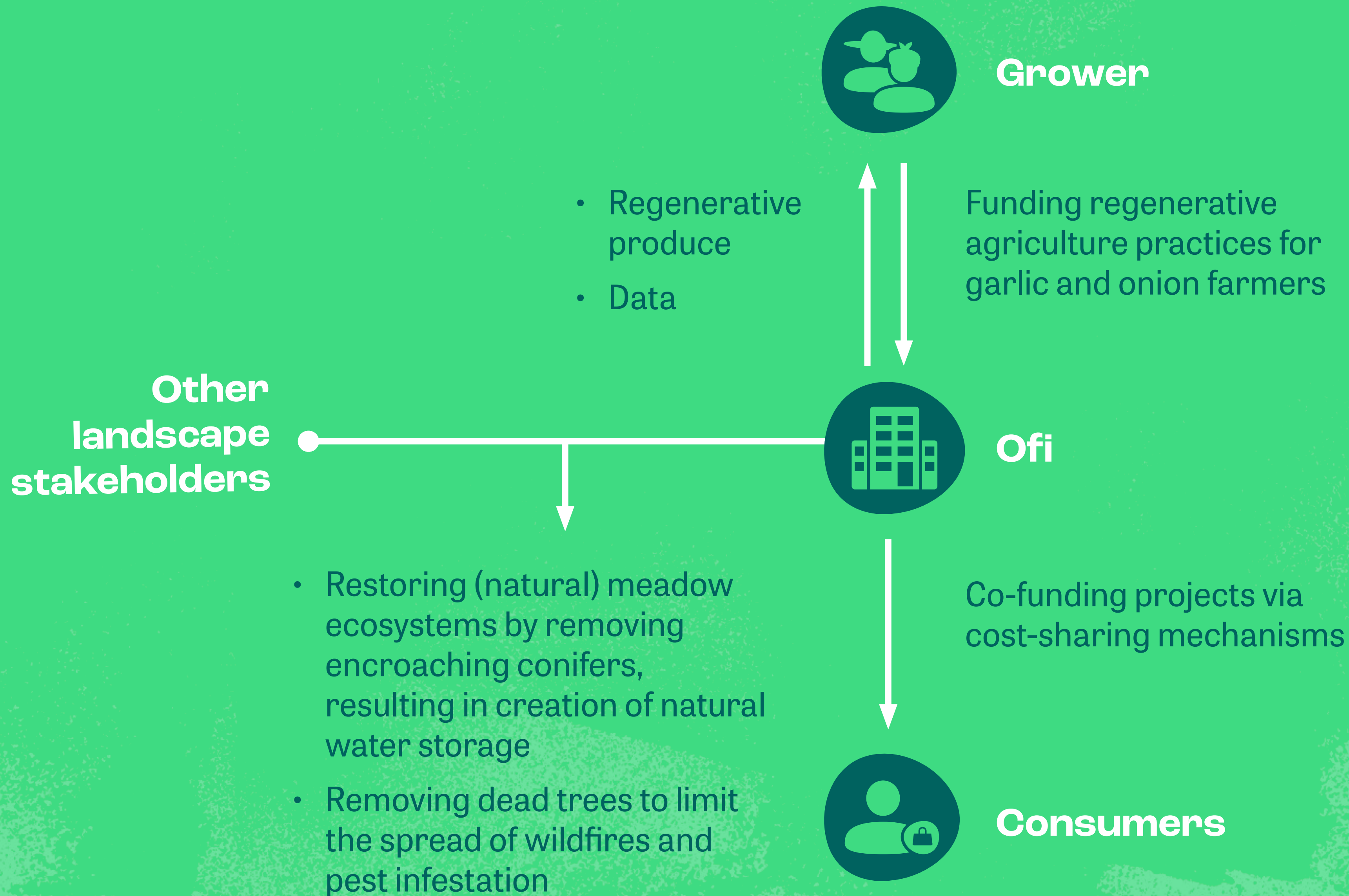
- Improving soil health; reducing synthetic fertilizer
- Improving efficiency of on-farm water usage
- Enhancing on-farm biodiversity
- Increasing efficiency of on-farm energy usage





Landscape scale meadow and forest ecosystem restoration in upper watershed

- Management of agricultural practices through multistakeholder programs
- Conservation efforts alongside supporting livelihoods

Regenerative agriculture and restoration program




Environmental footprint reduction from regenerative agriculture

| Sub-activity | GHG reductions* | Energy reductions* | Water reductions* |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|
|  Animal-based compost fertilizer | 15-20% reduction of onion and garlic emissions during production stage | | |
|  Drip irrigation | | 70% diesel reduction (compared to baseline) | 42% potential reduction in water use |

*Based on scenarios, not actual data

Environmental footprint reduction from meadow and forest restoration

| Sub-activity | GHG reductions* | Water reductions* | Other benefits |
|--|--|---|---|
|  Meadow & forest restoration | 84,308 MT carbon benefit (one-time claim upon project completion) | 644,699,165 gallons of water replenished (annually for the next 20 years) | Reduced spread of wildfires as dead trees are removed |

*Based on scenarios, not actual data

Reflections



Internal processes

- **Initial motivation:** Ofi learned about the connection between the health of the upper watershed and downstream agriculture during a meeting with California Water Action Collaborative.
- **Creating the internal buy-in and budgets:** Ofi had an internal goal around developing landscape partnerships. Internal buy-in came when Ofi partnered with customers to share costs.
- **Actions/ internal changes needed:** Ofi works closely with the agricultural production teams and has hired an agronomist.



Challenges

- Fires and snow delayed field-level implementation.
- Lack of verification of the carbon measurements due to project taking place on public land.



Learnings

- Working with **customers and expert partners** is incredibly valuable and a powerful way to make a real impact.
- Ofi maintains **long-standing grower relationships**.
- Ofi plays an important role in **ensuring diverse crop rotations**.
- Instead of a price premium on products, Ofi incentivises working on the Regen Ag program via **cost-sharing for project implementation** between Ofi, customers, and growers. Grower contribution is often in-kind.
- Ofi rewards processor/ growers' sustainable behaviour through **long-term relationships and supporting field-level benefits**.
- Ofi and farmers are **gaining trust and support from large customers**
 - Previously, customers identified specific sustainable practices to be implemented; now there is more willingness to collaborate with farmers and processors and to co-invest in measures.