



**IITA**

**Youth Agripreneurs**

*Agriculture is the future*

# BULLETIN

Issue 38 May, 2020

## IYA begins tilapia fish production



*The team during the stocking process at the cage culture*

The IITA Youth Agripreneurs through its partnership with WorldFish under the Aquaculture compact of Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) has established a tilapia cage culture in Ibadan Nigeria.

The collaboration which is an opportunity to leverage the technologies promoted by the Aquaculture compact

and out-scale it for adoption by young people and farmers will facilitate access to training and enterprise development on tilapia fish farming.

Although IYA has expertise in catfish production and has been training people and operating business enterprise along the catfish value chain, this is the first time the group in Nigeria is exploring the tilapia

fish value chain. The IYA team in DR Congo through a similar collaboration had trained youths and farmers, and also established demonstration sites on tilapia fish farming.

To kick-off the business in Nigeria, the team stocked about 13,500 fingerlings at the constructed cage culture facility located at the golf lake within IITA.

Some of the advantages of using a cage culture for raising tilapia include the ease and low cost of harvesting; close observation of fish feeding response and health; ease and economic treatment of parasites and diseases.

The team intends to nurture the stocked tilapia fish for 5 months to table size before sales. They also have plans to breed fingerlings for sales to farmers within the locality.

Tilapia fish farming in Nigeria is relatively less popular when compared to catfish farming. Investigations have however revealed that there are 35 to 40 percent returns on investment on tilapia fish farming.

## IYA launches online TV channel



*Program host, Damola Adewole interacting with one of the transporters at the market*

As part of its effort to enhance its visibility and create more avenues to interact with the stakeholders in the sector, IYA has launched its online TV platform using its YouTube channel-IYA TV.

The online TV channel aims at showcasing interesting agricultural related programmes that will inform, educate and entertain the public.

To kick off on the channel, the communication team of the unit initiated a program known as 'agri-matters' with a focus on the effect of COVID-19 on cassava farmers in Ilora and Ajegunle in Oyo state.

Ilora and Ajegunle cassava markets are well known in the South-West region of Nigeria for processing of cassava



into garri. The market is located in Oyo town, a suburb in Oyo State and it has traders visiting from all over the country to buy and transport processed garri to other parts of Nigeria.

The hustling and bustling of the market on a regular basis brings satisfaction to the traders as they always smiled to the bank at the end of the each day.



A truck loading cassava waste for transportation at Ilora Market.

Although, not sophisticated, the traders are quite aware of some technologies that promote their business operations.

The sweet tales however changed suddenly following the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic. The trader now full of lamentations due to the pounding effect of the pandemic on their businesses. Most of the traders who spoke with IYA during a market survey conducted recently, complained

about high cost of raw materials, low patronage, and sharp decline in their profits. They also expressed fear of uncertainties in the coming months.

The Chairman of the market, Adebayo Ogunwale said the market had now become a ghost town as traders who patronized them from Lagos, the Northern and Eastern parts of the country can no longer visit to buy garri due to the restriction on movement

and the lockdown in some states. He added that many processing cottages have been forced to shut-down as a result of the effect of the pandemic.

His words: "Before now, we had people who come in from Abuja, Lagos, Kano, Ondo and so on to patronize us but as it is, we only have few people within Oyo state coming here to buy. This pandemic has really affected us and we don't know when the government will ease the interstate restriction of movement."

Speaking on the price of garri, one of the traders, Ms Abimbola Janet, stated that the price had dropped by 50 percent resulting to a loss for some of them who had produced and stored the product before the pandemic began.

She added that few traders who are still in business buy raw materials at high costs.

"The farmers planted before the pandemic but most of them have now increased their prices. We were buying 3 tons at N50,000 before but we now buy at N110,000 naira", she said.

Animal feed millers who get cassava wastes for production of animal feed also complained, regretting their inability to get the raw materials to produce feeds.

## IYA partners with Oyo Govt to revitalize rural training centre

IITA Youth Agripreneurs (IYA) is partnering with the Oyo State Government on the revitalization and use of the Rural Community Development Centre (RCDC) in Awe, Oyo town as a satellite site for its youth in agribusiness related activities.

The RCDC which is located about 56 kilometers from Ibadan is proposed by IYA to be used for agribusiness incubation, agribusiness park, establishment of pilot learning enterprises and a training center.

The center, which is a farm training institute owned by Oyo state government will enable IYA expand its activities and give young people the opportunity to have hands-on experience on agribusiness. IYA is requesting for the use of 100 hectares of land, access to the training rooms, dormitories,

and the processing facilities.

Although situated in a rural community, IYA through the approval and assistance of the state government will turn the center to a modern agribusiness training center where innovative and modern agricultural practices will be taught.

In a meeting with the IYA team in May, the Executive Adviser to the Oyo State governor on Agribusiness, Dr. Debo Akande, expressed government's willingness to work with the youth, disclosing that Governor Seyi Makinde has given approval for the construction of a security fence round the facility.

His words: "During our last discussion on the use of the facility for training by IYA, you requested that there should be construction of fence around the place for security purpose and I informed his Excellency, the Governor

of Oyo State and he has approved that they commence work on the construction as soon as possible. We have sent out an announcement for the bidding process and by the time the contractors submit their quotations, we'll be ready to move" he stated.

IYA through the ENABLE-TAAT project will commence operations on establishment of agribusiness park for some ENABLE-TAAT beneficiaries to cultivate 20 hectares of cassava field, utilize the processing facility for value addition of cassava into garri and also establish a low-cost fish pond facility using trampoline fish ponds.

The IYA team also intends to establish some pilot learning enterprises and demonstration plots for agribusiness incubation focusing on cowpea, maize, Orange Fleshed Sweet Potato, cassava, and soybean. The youth will be trained on value addition of the commodities as well.

# IYA Kalambo engaged in facilitating access to finance for youth agripreneurs



L-R One of the participants pitching his business idea to the panelist. R- one of the winners of the agri-pitch competition

The IITA Youth Agripreneurs (IYA) team in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in collaboration with the government of the DRC through the *Projet Intégré de Croissance Agricole dans Les Grands Lacs*, (PICAGL), organized an innovation and entrepreneurship competition titled “An Evening with Youth in Entrepreneurship and Agribusiness.” A major part of the event which held at the IITA -Prés. O. Obasanjo station in Bukavu, was the agri-pitch on agribusiness enterprises.

The program which had over 150 participants in attendance, was to enable young people create a culture of innovation and particularly, to promote technology-based agribusiness innovations in Africa.

The objectives of the event were to: inform stakeholders about the opportunities and constraints for engaging young people in agribusiness in DRC (case of Young Agripreneurs of IITA and Young PICAGL component); mobilize resources for young Agripreneurs; organize a pitch session for young people to present business plans to donors and carry out advocacy and networking for the

engagement of stakeholders in youth employment and entrepreneurship..

Applicants were selected through a call for application posted on all the social networks of the IITA youth group in DRC. The announcement attracted over 100 applications from which 30 applicants were shortlisted for another rigorous selection exercise which led to the emergence of 9 finalists.

For 5 weeks, under the tutelage of IYA members, entrepreneurship development experts and ORHEOL, an entrepreneurship training organization, the finalists went through technical and entrepreneurial training sessions, mentoring, coaching, learning visits and facilitation of easy access to market and credit.

In his welcome speech, Noel MULINGANYA, Coordinator of the IYA Program in DRC, highlighted the role IITA plays in supporting not just the Congolese government, but Africa as a whole, in reducing the rate of unemployment since the program started in 2012. He also noted that the IITA Youth in

agribusiness program through PICAGL, is designed to empower young people by exploring new skills, technologies and innovative financing approaches so that they can create viable and profitable agribusiness enterprises in DRC..

The Provincial Minister of Agriculture South Kivu, Marcellin BAHAYA, who also addressed participants, assured that President Felix Tsikedi was committed to ensuring that year 2020 remained focused on the revival of agriculture for youth development. Bahaya also reaffirmed the determination of the Governor Théo NGWABINJE-led provincial government to improve agriculture, which he described as the strength of the province's economy and the source of wealth and job creation for the youth of South Kivu.

Damas BULUBULU, Provincial Coordinator of PICAGL reiterated the project's commitment to the support of young people in innovation and agribusiness through various PICAGL initiatives and opportunities such as training and the AgriPitch..

# IYA engage youth and women to reduce conflict and violence in South-Kivu

In partnership with the Mission of United Nations of Peace keeping in DR Congo (MONUSCO), the IITA Youth Agripreneur (IYA), through an IITA project in Ruzizi plain, South Kivu, is focusing on re-integrating into the society, ex-combatants, especially youth and women affected by the crisis in the region..

Ruzizi plain, located at Uvira territory at the border of South Kivu and Burundi experienced some longstanding violence and conflict which has resulted in socio-economic underdevelopment.

As part of efforts aimed at re-integrating the most vulnerable in the region,

IYA in Bukavu organized trainings on agro-pastoral activities to facilitate the generation of daily incomes for the target group in three communities- Kamayola, Katogota and Luvungi.

IYA's role was to organize 40 ex-combatants, 30 high risk youth and 30 vulnerable women into a maize production and processing cooperative for economic self-sufficiency in the communities and train them in livestock techniques with focus on pig production.

IYA was also to organize social cohesion and daily revenue generating activities such as a movie theater and a hairdressing salon in the entrepreneurship center

at Luvungi. IYA reached out to 100 beneficiaries who currently generate an average of \$250 each every month from their various activities. They have indirectly assisted over 2000 rural people and also contributed to the reduction of the number of youths enrolling in militant groups.

The Luvungi community center is currently serving as a training center for the youth in other projects and as a model of agricultural transformation. MONUSCO is currently exploring the possibility of replicating the same approach in various locations through a bigger project.



L-R: The beneficiaries of the project loading harvested maize to the processing centre; Training of the beneficiaries on plantain sucker multiplication



A beneficiary cleaning his pig pen



A cross section of some of the re-integrated youths

# Agripreneurs day out at Fashola Grammar School, Oyo



*Some of the Agripreneurs during their visit to Fasola Grammar School, Oyo.*

The Start Them Early Program (STEP) is a new initiative at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, (IITA). It operates under the Youth in Agribusiness office with a focus on how to advance agribusiness development to secondary schools in Africa. It is aimed at redirecting the aspirations of young people in secondary schools towards careers in modern agriculture by exposing them to viable opportunities in agribusiness at an early stage.

Nine secondary schools have been selected in three countries (Nigeria, DR Congo and Kenya) to implement the pilot phase of the project.

The STEP team in Nigeria selected three schools within the Southwestern region of the country to implement the pilot phase of the program. They are: Fasola Grammar School, Oluponna High School, and Lead City International School.

Fasola Grammar School and Oluponna High School are both government-owned schools, situated in rural communities, with the former located in a subsistence livelihood setting, and the latter in a market-oriented, mixed agriculture area. The third school is a private school, with less land area for the establishment of a demonstration fields but high level classroom and laboratory instruction.

At Fasola Grammar School in Oyo State Nigeria, the team is currently constructing and renovating some laboratories and classrooms in preparation for modernized training

in agribusiness. Members of the Youth in Agribusiness team who visited the school share their experiences.

## **Oluyemi Adunoye**

During my visit to Fasola Grammar School with the STEP program, I was definitely not prepared for what I was going to see and the rush of emotions that would flood my being. Firstly, I had a deep sense of pride in IITA for helping the school with basic amenities like water and electricity. Secondly, I felt disappointed in the fact that without the intervention of IITA, the school would probably still be at the dilapidated state. Thirdly, I felt a sense of responsibility to reflect on how our actions and inactions affect the generations after us. The STEP program is bigger than introducing agriculture to students in secondary schools. It is a revolution that would promote the development of future national and global leaders from the most unlikely places. We may not have all the resources in the world, but we can support in the little ways such as taking out time to practice English speaking with a child in our neighborhood. Knowledge remains the greatest gift to give to an adolescent, and if this is delivered in a conducive environment, it will definitely go a long way.

## **Adetola Adenmosun**

“Going to Fasola Grammar School on an assessment of the activities carried out by STEP was a breath of fresh air from my day to day routine. It opened my eyes to see beyond what IITA is doing to

attract pupils in the school to agriculture at a tender age. It was a moment of reflection on what we could do to improve the learning experience of the pupils of Fasola Grammar School. The school reminded me of a novel titled; “School Without Walls”. Although Fasola Grammar School has walls, it lacks basic infrastructure that could make learning conducive for the pupils. IITA has taken up part of this responsibility but here is a call on more organizations and individuals to assist in giving Fasola Grammar School a proper “wall”.

## **Eniola Olanrewaju**

“The trip to Fasola Grammar school on 21st of February 2020 was an insightful, memorable and fun-filled one. I saw the refurbished laboratory which is now the processing and training center for the school’s agricultural club, the renovated classrooms, staff room, hall, and other facilities. While I was happy IITA decided to renovate part of the school, I was sad seeing the condition, under which the students were being taught. The roofs of the classrooms had fallen off, the chairs were broken, and there were no windows. For me, I know we can all make Fasola Grammar School a model college.”

## **Oludoyin Adedayo**

“Tour to Fasola Grammar School on Friday 21st February, 2020 describes the struggle of an average rural pupil in the quest to study and excel against all odds. If other corporate organizations and well-meaning individuals could support the cause of students in rural areas and provide them with the basic infrastructure needed to enhance learning, the sky would be the limit for each of these pupils.”

## **Adesanya Omotomiwa**

“IITA, through the STEP program, is building a state of the art facility at Fasola Grammar School. It is going to be a new learning experience for the pupils and I am proud to be a part of the team changing the narrative.”

## **Adefioye Adedayo**

“It was a pleasure having our colleagues with us at Fasola. We exchanged ideas on how to make things better at the school and we are not going to relax until we achieve our goals.”



## ENABLE-TAAT initiates establishment of agribusiness park for trained youth

One of the mandates of the ENABLE-TAAT is to stimulate the establishment of youth-led agribusiness enterprises along the value chains of TAAT commodities. In view of this, the ENABLE-TAAT compact is linking youths who have undergone agribusiness incubation to business opportunities through the establishment of agribusiness park.

Agribusiness Park is a method adopted by the youth in agribusiness office to bring trained youths together in clusters at various project locations to operate different enterprises in the same location so that they can share resources and thus cut cost and facilitate access to opportunities such as loans, market linkages, continuous coaching and mentoring.

Positive results of the initiative have been recorded at one of the project sites in Onne, Nigeria, where the first batch of trained youths who are in clusters of four have established businesses on the technologies promoted by the poultry and aquaculture compact.

This innovation has however started yielding some result. At one of the project sites in Onne, Nigeria, the first batch of trained youths who are in cluster of four

per group have established businesses on the technologies promoted by the poultry and Aquaculture compact.

The aquaculture cluster group stocked 1000 catfish juveniles while the poultry group also stocked 1000 day-old broiler chicks. The poultry structure and fish ponds are closely located, thus further enhancing peer to peer learning and experience sharing between clusters.

Some of the trainees are already making the best of the technologies disseminated through the training and the opportunities made available to them.

One of them is Lateef Oderemi who after participating in the poultry training stocked 1200 day old pullets with equity funds. While his poultry house was ongoing, he brooded the pullets in the sitting room of his apartment. He has so far been offered technical backstopping and monitoring to ensure a hitch-free production cycle. Although Lateef is an Engineer, he has always had a passion for agriculture, and financial resource was not a major problem for him. He was limited by technical know-how and ENABLE TAAT program presented him an opportunity to actualize his dreams of setting up a large scale poultry farm.

For another beneficiary, Obarijima Onyomi, a member of the poultry cluster and a married woman concerned about offering the best to her household. Apart from the incubation activity, she was inspired by the ENABLE TAAT program to start a business that offers advisory services to poultry farmers and also serve as a bulking agent for poultry product. Before the incubation program, Onyomi was completely new to agribusiness. But she is now passionate about agriculture with interests in poultry and fish farming. She was mentored to apply for the Tony Elemelu Foundation fund – TEF Connect 2020.

“I am forever grateful to the ENABLE-TAAT platform for the training and for linking me to funding platforms I was not aware were in existence before now,” she said.

Francis Pollyn, another beneficiary has now incorporated the TAAT technologies he acquired into his fish processing business with a significant increase in profit. Before the training, Francis was engaged in fish smoking but he attests that the training has enhanced his branding, marketing, and pricing as well as processing methods to a certifiable standard.

ENABLE-TAAT activities in Onne has exposed young people in Ebonyi, Anambra, Abia, Akwa Ibom, Delta and Rivers state to agribusiness opportunities

### In Imo...

Two businesses established by youths trained in aquaculture and cassava processing have commenced the use of the agribusiness park facility established by ENABLE-TAAT in the state for experiential learning along the two value chains. Using the trampoline ponds and low cost cassava processing facility provided by ENABLE-TAAT, the business partners stocked about 3,000 catfish fingerlings and sourced for cassava roots around the locality to get raw materials to process into garri and fufu.



Lateef Oderemi attending to the birds at his poultry



Some ENABLE-TAAT beneficiaries at Chalata Fisheries facility

opportunities for other youths in the locality. The institute thereafter promised to provide the youth with the necessary training in commercial fish production as well as effective extension support in pond management, value addition and fish marketing.

Speaking on some of the challenges encountered by fish farmers in the region, the Fisheries Manager at Chalata Fisheries, Mr. Chisomo Phiri, noted that access to quality fingerlings and technical skills have resulted in the failure of fish businesses especially among small-scale fish farmers in the country.

### Also in Zambia...

Through the agribusiness park initiative, the trained youths under the ENABLE-TAAT project identified eight abandoned fish ponds in Mkushi to start their aquaculture businesses. The fish ponds belonging to a small-scale farmer in the area was offered to them at no cost. The team commenced renovation works at

the ponds and partnered with Chalata Fisheries management- a government owned facility for mentorship and market linkage in line with the proposed business in Mkushi area.

The management of Chalata Fisheries expressed excitement on seeing young people engaging themselves in agribusiness activities that would generate income and employment

“Small-scale farmers lack adequate knowledge in technical skills especially in terms of pond construction, fish husbandry practices and general management in Zambia. The institution is readily available to support the team with renovation and re-vitalization of the fish ponds, and also assist in market linkages for sales after production” he stated.

## ENABLE-TAAT’s response to COVID-19 pandemic

In Ibadan, the team acquired 5 hectares of land in Akinyele to expand the production in its food basket activities. The land which was allocated to the team at no cost by one of the land owners in the community for a period of 3 years will give the youths the opportunity to cultivate improved varieties of some TAAT commodities. Some of the commodities considered for cultivation for multiplication of seeds for dissemination to farmers ahead of the post-pandemic period include: Pro vitamin A cassava and maize, soybean, and orange fleshed sweet potato (OFSP).

Also, through its market prediction and survey, the ENABLE-TAAT team in Ibadan gathered that the price of fish will increase due to the inability of many fish farmers to stock during the pandemic.

The team in preparation for the effect of the pandemic on the aquaculture sector has stocked about 50,000 pieces of catfish fingerlings and plans to harvest and sell by October.

A kilogram of catfish was sold at N600 before the pandemic but sources say the price may increase to about N730 as a result of the pandemic. This indicates that farmers will make up to 40 percent increase in profit.



The team in Ibadan taking delivery of catfish fingerlings for stocking at the ponds.



The stocking of the fingerlings

**In Kenya...**



*ENABLE-TAAT team in Kenya preparing land for cultivation of bio-fortified cassava*

*Maintenance of the ENABLE-TAAT food basket field in Kenya*

**In Imo...**



*ENABLE-TAAT team in Imo distributing cassava stem to farmers*



*One of the beneficiaries of ENABLE-TAAT producing fish feed to supplement imported fish feeds in Imo*



*ENABLE-TAAT team and beneficiaries in Nigeria.*

# Market Information: The Agripreneur's most valuable resource

## Commodity Price Monitored for May, 2020.

COMMODITY	MEASURE	PRICE
Rice (locally milled)	Per ton	360,000 - 420,000
Cassava	Per ton	25,000 - 30,000
Garri	Per ton	230,000 - 250,000
Maize	Per ton	110,000 - 120,000
Cowpea	Per ton	180,000 - 250,000
Soybean	Per ton	120,000 - 130,000
Plantain	Per bunch	1,500 - 2,500
Chicken (Broiler)	Per kg	1,200
Eggs	Per crate	800
Tilapia	Per kg	1,100
Fresh Catfish	Per kg	800 - 1,000

Source: Markets in Oyo State

Note: All prices are in Naira.

We often think that what keeps a business organization in existence is the quantum of capital available to the business, the size of its physical assets or the competence of the human resource running the business. As important as all these are, the availability and access to market however ensures that a business remains relevant and rewarded for the value it has created.

A business can create a fantastic product or service, if it doesn't figure out a way to get it to the consumers, all the

efforts and resources used would have amounted to nothing. In Africa, there is no doubt that market for agricultural products is available because Africa still imports around US\$35 billion worth of food, a figure set to rise to US\$110 billion in 2025 if nothing is done. The real issue here is that of access to markets. It is true that the level of agricultural productivity needs to grow significantly to overcome high food importation, but this will be realized when there is a significant increase in agricultural

investments. Access to market, as it is, among other factors, is the stimulus that can drive this investment.

The perishable nature of agricultural products makes trading in them a time-sensitive issue. This is why a lot of products lose considerable amount of value before getting to market. The more recent COVID-19 pandemic has escalated problems concerning market access as many food markets have either been shut down or seriously restricted. Consequently, many agricultural businesses are experiencing low incomes and some have even shut down. If the situation persists, the continent will experience low agricultural productivity and investment. This is a recipe for a serious food crisis.

The IITA Youth Agripreneur (IYA) program continues to equip an increasing number of youth to start and manage profitable agribusinesses. While building their technical and business competence through its training program, its business development office ensures that bankable business plans are developed to attract funding from financial institutions. In recent times, IYA has intensified its efforts to assist in linking established agribusinesses to markets. IYA's role here will be to connect agripreneurs with the supply chains of various agro-allied businesses and provide real-time information about market actors, prices and opportunities. This has led to the development of an online marketing community of buyers and sellers of agricultural products. The platform will enable agricultural value chain actors source and connect with markets in their respective geographical locations. It will leverage on IITA's engagement with various value chain actors on its numerous projects across several countries in Africa to register buyers and sellers on the platform. IYA seeks to provide agripreneurs with the information resource that will keep their businesses growing and their income increasing.

If you are reading this article, we would require your support to promote this web-based community. Please stay tuned to our website and social media pages as we launch this platform in a couple of weeks.



Some IYA members marketing their produce at an exhibition.

# Training Announcement



## Youth Employment in Agri-business and Sustainable Agriculture (YEASA) 2020 Training Application Call opens

Youth Employment in Agri-business and Sustainable Agriculture (YEASA) Project is an International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) funded project. The partnering institutions include Afe Babalola University (ABUAD), International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice) and University of Abomey-Calavi Benin Republic.

### Training Partnering Institutions

Youths will be trained as indicated by partner institutions:

ABUAD – mango, moringa, feedmill, fishery and equipment and machinery fabrication; IITA – cassava, soybean/cowpea, plantain, maize and equipment and machinery fabrication; AfricaRice – rice (both paddy and seed) and equipment and machinery fabrication.

Attending the training is free and successful participant will be trained in Agricultural production, Value addition, Farm Equipment Fabrication/Modification, Agri-business Development and Management, and Agribusiness plans development. The successful trained youths with excellent performance will be awarded Certification of Trainees and Start-up Grants.

### Training Components

Training in managerial, financial management and entrepreneurial skills.

1. Agricultural Production.
  1. Soybean/cowpea (soybean/cowpea seed production enterprises)
  2. Maize (maize seed and grain production)
  3. Plantain (sucker multiplication and fruit production enterprises)
  4. Mango fruit production
  5. Cassava (cassava stem, and cassava tuber production)
  6. Rice (seed and paddy production, equipment fabrication enterprise including weeders, threshers)
  7. Moringa (leaf and seed production)
  8. Fish (fingerlings and cat-fish production).
2. Value Addition
  - i. Technical skills and knowledge in processing farm produce, e.g.
    1. drying, canning, production of fruit pulp, fruit drying
    2. preparation of snacks flour milling, preparation of gari, and fufu, rice cakes, rice biscuits,
    4. moringa processing (moringa powder, moringa capsule, moringa soap, moringa toothpaste, moringa seeds, moringa oil, moringa cream, and moringa tea)
    5. fish smoking, preparation of fish oil, fish oil capsule, feed processing for fish;
  - ii. Marketing and sales skills and that will make youth to participate profitably in supply chains for the farm
  - iii. Integrate producers and youth entrepreneur processors in the agro-food value chains.
3. Farm Equipment Fabrication/Modification.

This is therefore to inform the general public that the Youth Employment in Agri-business and Sustainable Agriculture (YEASA) 2020 application is open. Youths between the ages of 18-35 years, and citizens of Oyo and Ekiti States are eligible to apply in Nigeria.

### Application and Youth Selection Criteria

1. Apply online through the link: <https://yeasa.info/index#apply>
2. Youth must be unemployed
3. Age 18 to 35 years old
4. Minimum of WAEC/SSCE certificate
5. Must be from Oyo and Ekiti States origin
6. Must be living or reside in rural areas in either of the two target states
7. Women are encouraged to apply

The application is open as from 15th May, 2020 and will close on 31st July, 2020.

For more information: Please visit our website [www.yeasa.org](http://www.yeasa.org) or +2348038059340; +2348100738768;

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