



Support to Women Entrepreneurship in the Agrifood Sector in Nigeria (SWEAN)



Introduction and description of the project

The “Support to Women Entrepreneurship in the Agrifood sector in Nigeria” (SEFAN/SWEAN) project was awarded to Nigeria by the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Embassy of France in Nigeria) through the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) on the 1st September, 2020 with an end date in February, 2022. The project’s **main goal** is to extend the skills development of women agripreneurs in Nigeria, aiming at greater empowerment, their dynamic inclusion in market networks, both locally and internationally.

The project targets women agripreneurs from often marginalized groups, including smallholder farmers and other actors in the value chain, who show an interest or have already engaged in activities aimed at the use of innovative ICT tools, even at modest scales. Furthermore, the SEFAN/SWEAN project will thrive for a systemic scaling of the training programs by promoting their integration into

the Agriculture Technical Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) schools and centers. This will contribute to improving the ATVET system in Nigeria, through shared knowledge and experiences between French ATVET institutions and their Nigerian counterparts.

The specific objectives of the project are:

- Set up training in agribusiness for women entrepreneurs already established in the agri-food sector or with high potential to become entrepreneurs
- Develop leadership attitudes and provide the tools to increase training in agribusiness within the women farmers/entrepreneurs
- Participate in the constitution, dynamizing, and structuring of a network of women farmers/entrepreneurs in Nigeria
- Promote the integration of innovative and improved agribusiness curriculum into the ATVET system in Nigeria in collaboration with French ATVET experts.



Women farmers and entrepreneurs processing cassava.

Audience and stakeholders

Target population and location

Women in agroprocessing and aspiring young female agripreneurs in Ibadan, Oyo State and Zaria, Kaduna State

- 300 direct beneficiaries
- 1000 indirect beneficiaries
- 4 ATVET schools and centers

Lead Implementing Partner

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture

Local Partners

- **Oyo State:** Oyo State Government, Oyo State Agribusiness Development Agency (OYSADA), Oyo State Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development, Oyo State College of Agriculture and Technology (OYSCATECH)
- **Kaduna State:** Kaduna State Ministry of Agriculture,
- **ATVET:** National Board of Technical Education (NBTE), ATVET schools and centers
- Federal Institute of Industrial Research Oshodi (FIRO)
- National Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Services (NAERLS)
- National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC)



Women farmers and entrepreneurs processing maize.

- Nigeria Export Promotion Council (NEPC)
- Nigerian Stored Product Research Institute (NSPRI)
- Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN)
- Standard Organisation of Nigeria (SON)
- Women farmers networks and associations

International Partners: French ATVET schools and institutions

Donor: French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (through the Embassy of France in Nigeria).



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