



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

**SEPTEMBER 2023
ISSUE NO 28**

NIGERIA INTGRATED AGRICULTURE ACTIVITY NEWSLETTER

**STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURE AND
FOOD SECURITY IN NIGERIA: NIAA
PRESENTS DRAFT YEAR 5 WORKPLAN TO
KEY STAKEHOLDERS**

**IITA AND NASC:
COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS
AT BUILDING CAPACITY**

**COMMEMORATING
NIAA FARMERS' GREEN-
FIELD DAY 2023**

**EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES THROUGH
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
AND COOPERATIVE
MANAGEMENT TRAINING**



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

IITA

Transforming African Agriculture





FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

» Table of Contents

03

Strengthening Agriculture and Food Security in Nigeria: NIAA Presents Draft Year 5 Workplan to Key Stakeholders



Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity Newsletter

05

IITA and NASC: Collaborative Efforts at Building Capacity

06

Commemorating NIAA Farmers' Green-Field Day 2023



07

Empowering Communities through Business Development and Cooperative Management Training



09

About the Activity/Contact

Sept. 2023
Issue No 28





FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY IN NIGERIA: NIAA PRESENTS DRAFT YEAR 5 WORKPLAN TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS



In a pivotal meeting held on September 13, 2023, at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FMAFS) in Abuja, a significant stride was taken in the journey towards enhancing agriculture and food security in Nigeria. At the gathering, Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity (NIAA) presented the draft of the Year Five Work Plan to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the FMAFS. Expectedly, the outcome of this meeting will have far-reaching implications for food security and the agricultural landscape in Nigeria.

Presenting the draft Workplan, the Chief of Party-NIAA, Mr. Prakash Kant Silwal, highlighted the achievements of the Activity in the last four years.

He explained how the Activity is contributing immensely to seed production in Northeast Nigeria through Community-Based Seed Producers and how the livelihood of beneficiaries has been greatly impacted by interventions in agricultural productivity, nutrition, and economic empowerment among others. Mr. Silwal was supported by senior staff of Activity who provided insights into the draft Year 5 Workplan as a blueprint of the priorities of the Federal Government in the area of agriculture and food security.

In attendance at the presentation were the Activity's Agreement Officer's Representative (AOR), Dr. Ayoade Adetoye, Alternate AOR, Mr. Abdulkebiru Omoti, Country Director,



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE





FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Dr. Ignatius Angarawai, and senior officials of FMAFS. FMAFS Director, Eng. A.G. Abubakar, commended the proposed interventions. He acknowledged that the draft synchronizes with the nation's goals. He also validated the Activity's contributions to agricultural development and food security in the country while pledging the ministry's support.

Other stakeholders at the event include Adamawa State Commissioner for Agriculture, Prof. David Jatau; Director, Yobe State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Dr. Ibrahim Goni; Director, Gombe State Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Ibrahim Yakubu. Prof. Jatau appreciated USAID for its interventions through the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in partnership with ICRISAT. He specifically used the occasion to plead with USAID to prolong NIAA's impact beyond December 2024 owing to the exceptional work the Activity has done in Northeast Nigeria. The Commissioner also expressed optimism in the ability of USAID to extend the Activity beyond a geo-political zone to ensure the scaling-up of a transformational model that can drive agricultural growth across

the country.

The yearly presentation of the draft Workplan is one of the avenues through which the Activity keeps the donor and stakeholders abreast of its interventions in the focus states. More importantly, it showcases USAID's developmental efforts in the northeast in addition to the Activity's interventions aligning with the Federal Government's food security goals.



In a discussion: The Chief of Party-NIAA, Mr. Prakash Kant Silwal (middle); Director, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FMAFS), Engr. A.G. Abubakar (2nd right); Director, Gombe State Ministry of Agriculture (right); USAID Alternate Agreement Officer's Representative (AOR), Mr. Abdulkebiru Omoti (2nd left) and the Deputy Chief of Party-NIAA, Mr. Olukayode Faleti at the draft Year 5 Workplan presentation in Abuja.



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

IITA AND NASC: COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS AT BUILDING CAPACITY

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) continue to collaborate in an effort to build capacity and foster agricultural development in the country. In a follow-up meeting held on September 14, 2023, the Senior Management Team of Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity (NIAA) met with NASC at their headquarter in Abuja.

The Chief of Party-NIAA, Mr. Prakash Kant Silwal, who was represented by the Deputy Chief of Party, Mr. Olukayode Faleti, appreciated NASC for past partnerships and future collaborations. "NASC has been very supportive especially in the training of the Activity's over 60,000 farmers during our first three years of intervention. The 2,250 Community-Based Seed Producers (CBSPs) have received climate-smart and good agricultural practices training at some point or the other. We are confident that NASC will continue to support us as we train our farmers and increase agricultural yields in the northeast. On our part, we will not fail to adhere strictly to NASC's guidelines on seed production", he said.

Receiving the team, the Acting Director General-NASC, Dr. Khalid Ishiak, commended the various achievements of the Activity especially its commitment to supporting smallholder farmers in Adamawa, Borno, Gombe, and Yobe



Deputy Chief of Party (NIAA), Mr. Olukayode Faleti (right); Market Systems and Livelihood Specialist (NIAA), Mr. Bassey Archibong (2nd right), Acting DG (NASC), Dr. Khalid Ishiak (middle); Director (NASC), Dr. Jimmy Zidafamor (2nd left) and Youth/Gender Facilitator (NIAA), Mr. SHakiru Quadri during the meeting

States. "We will continue to equip your CBSPs with the latest knowledge in seed quality assurance and regulation. We will also offer expertise and resources for specialized training programs tailored to NASC's unique requirements", he promised.

The partnership is aimed at benefiting the Activity's CBSPs who will metamorphose into Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs in the various cooperative societies facilitated by the Activity. Also, it is expected to substantiate progress in improving agricultural practices and boosting agricultural yields.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE





FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

COMMEMORATING NIAA FARMERS' GREEN-FIELD DAY 2023



In an ongoing effort to empower farmers and advance climate-smart, good agricultural practices (GAP), the Feed USAID-funded Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity (NIAA) held its annual Green-Field Day across the intervention local government areas in Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe States. On this occasion, farmers are shown the effects of adhering to GAP through demonstration plots earlier cultivated in the year. Therefore, the event helps to reinforce learning among farmers and exposes them to cutting-edge technologies while emphasizing practical aspects of GAP. This year's Green Field Day kicked off on the 18th of September 2023.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE





FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative



At the Green-Field Day in Demsa LGA, Adamawa State, the Activity's Senior Agronomist, Mr. Azeez Oyeyemi explained that the day allows farmers to interact and collaborate. "It is not just about experts imparting knowledge; it is also a forum for farmers themselves to share their experiences. This important feature of the special day encourages the exchange of ideas and fosters a sense of community and ownership among participants". Working with Senior Technical Field Officers in the four intervention states, the Senior Agronomist provides expert opinions to farmers who seek clarifications, guidance, and advice. This direct interaction with NIAA staff allows for tailored solutions to specific challenges faced by individual farmers. Overall, the knowledge and experiences gained during this event will undoubtedly lead to improved agricultural practices, increased yields, and enhanced livelihoods for farmers in the intervention states.



The Activity's Senior Agronomist, Mr. Azeez Oyeyemi demonstrates some farming techniques to two of the Extension Agents present at the Farmers' Green Field Day.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE





FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT TRAINING



Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity (NIAA) has organized a business development training for some of its beneficiaries in Borno State. The aim of the training is to equip cooperative leaders with the essential skills required for sustainable business growth and effective cooperative management.

The comprehensive training which was facilitated by the business development unit of the Activity delved into the intricacies of effective business development and cooperative management. Participants gained insights into critical aspects of entrepreneurship, financial management, marketing strategies, and cooperative governance. The knowledge imparted during these sessions was tailored to empower them to drive sustainable economic growth within their respective groups.

According to the Activity's Market Systems and Livelihood Specialist,

Mr. Basse Archibong, NIAA aims to catalyze sustainable development within these communities by providing valuable knowledge and skills in business development and cooperative management. "We help strengthen the capacity of cooperative leaders. The Activity also enhances the potential for job creation, income generation, and poverty alleviation. Ultimately, this initiative aligns with the Activity's overarching goal of improving the nutritional and economic well-being of individuals and families in Borno state and the entire northeast".

The training which took place in Biu LGA was attended by 75 participants (63 men and 13 women). These individuals were the driving forces behind 27 different community-based groups spanning the five local government areas (LGAs) of Biu, Bayo, Hawul, Kwaya Kusar, and Shani. This diverse group of beneficiaries represented a broad spectrum of expertise and backgrounds, coming together with a shared vision of enhancing their communities' economic prospects.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

About the Activity

The Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity (IAA) issued under the US Government's Global Food Security Act was awarded by USAID Nigeria to the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and its partners in July 2019 towards the economic recovery of North-East Nigeria, in the wake of the devastation caused by the ongoing insurgency in the region. The Activity supports vulnerable populations in 12 Local Government Areas of Adamawa and Borno states to re-engage in basic farming activities and aims to advance the objectives of inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led economic growth, strengthened resilience among people and systems, and a well-nourished population, especially among women and children in targeted locations.

To achieve these objectives, the Activity works with a coalition of public and private sector partners to facilitate improved agro-input and extension advisory services to serve vulnerable populations; strengthen the institutions that form the market system and the networks that serve smallholder farmers disenfranchised by conflict, and facilitate the engagement of youth and women in economic and entrepreneurial activities.

Contact



Prakash Kant Silwal

Principal Specialist/Chief of Party

Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated

Agriculture Activity

IITA-Abuja, Beside Old Water

Works, Kubwa,

Abuja FCT, Nigeria

Mobile: +234-9062927839

Email: P.Silwal@cgiar.org

WWW.IITA.ORG WWW.FEEDTHEFUTURE.GOV



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Transforming African Agriculture

