



FEED THE FUTURE

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

Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity (NIAA) Newsletter

38th Edition

September/October 2024 Edition

Inspiring Success Stories from Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity

- ▶ **First NASC Inspection of Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs (CBSE) Farms**
- ▶ **Private Sector Linkage Workshop Enhances NASC Collaboration with Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs in Gombe and Yobe States**
- ▶ **Empowering Participants with Risk Planning and Decision-Making Skills for Predictable and Unpredictable Threats**
- ▶ **USAID Nigeria Feed the Future Team's Field Visit to Integrated Agriculture Activity in Adamawa State**



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

IITA
Transforming African Agriculture



ICRISAT
INTERNATIONAL CROPS RESEARCH
INSTITUTE FOR THE SEMI-ARID TROPICS



As we reflect on the progress achieved through our Integrated Agriculture Activity, I am filled with gratitude and optimism for the future of agriculture in Northeast Nigeria. The past few months have been significant, marked by impactful initiatives aimed at empowering our Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs (CBSEs) and establishing a sustainability model for community-based seed production system in the region.

The first inspection of CBSE farms conduct-

ed by the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) is one of the different laid-down checklists by the Agency towards quality seed production. Covering over 1,000 farms in Adamawa, Borno, Gombe, and Yobe States, these inspections ensure compliance with certification standards at the vegetative stage and also highlight the remarkable growth, adaptability and determination of our CBSEs. The encouraging results, particularly the impressive performance of improved seed varieties under challenging conditions, help to accentuate the importance of our efforts in building a sustainable agricultural landscape.

Our Private Sector Linkage Workshop in Gombe further reinforced the vital connections between CBSEs and private seed companies. The need to work together demonstrated by stakeholders reaffirms our sustained efforts to work with important stakeholders in the sector for sustainable development. As we approach the closeout of the Activity, we must continue to harness these relationships to ensure the continuity of our initiatives and empower local communities to thrive in the process.

Equally important is our commitment to the safety and well-being of our staff and partners. The recent workshop on risk planning and decision-making equipped participants with essential skills to navigate today's complex security landscape. By prioritizing cybersecurity and personal safety, we are not only protecting our teams but also enhancing the overall effectiveness of our interventions.

I am also proud to highlight the successful oversight visit by the USAID Nigeria Feed the Future team, which provided valuable insights into the tangible benefits of our interventions on local agribusinesses. The success stories of individuals like Mrs. Deborah Zakari and Othniel Swade exemplify the wide-reaching effect of our initiatives. Their journeys from uncertainty to thriving entrepreneurship illustrate how access to knowledge, resources, and improved agricultural practices can change lives and uplift communities.

As we move forward, let us remain committed to our mission of fostering agricultural growth and food security in Nigeria. Together, we can build on the progress made, address the challenges ahead, and continue to empower communities to create lasting change. Thank you for your unwavering dedication and support.

Prakash Kant Silwal
Chief of Party
Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity

In this issue:

First NASC Inspection of Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs (CBSE) Farms **02**

Private Sector Linkage Workshop Enhances NASC Collaboration with Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs in Gombe and Yobe States **04**

Empowering Participants with Risk Planning and Decision-Making Skills for Predictable and Unpredictable Threats **05**

USAID Nigeria Feed the Future Team's Field Visit to Integrated Agriculture Activity in Adamawa State **07**

Success Stories **08**



First NASC Inspection of Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs (CBSE) Farms



Adamawa State, Ojo Olusegun Emmanuel, CBSE Umaru Abdullah, NIAA Senior Agronomist Azeez Oyeyemi and AADP Desk Officer Peter Ibrahim observing Sammaz 51 maize cobs at Duwa community Gombi LGA Adamawa state

In an important step toward strengthening quality seed production across Northeast Nigeria, the Activity recently completed its first inspection of Community-Based Seed Entrepreneur (CBSE) farms in Adamawa, Borno, Gombe, and Yobe States. State Seed Certification Officers conducted this inspection from the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) with strong support from Extension Agents, Senior Agronomists, Technical Field Officers, Research Supervisors, and Monitoring and Evaluation staff. As a critical requirement for certifying CBSE farms, the inspection aimed at assessing seed producers' compliance with certification standards at the vegetative stage while

also building a comprehensive database of CBSEs with seed production farms during the 2024 wet season.

The inspection covered a total of 1,006 CBSE farms, underscoring the growing reach and impact of the Activity in the region. In Gombe and Yobe States, where CBSEs received foundation seeds directly from the project this season, a total of 862 fields were inspected, with 404 fields in Gombe and 458 in Yobe. Meanwhile, in Adamawa and Borno, where CBSEs independently sourced foundation seeds from recognized seed companies, 72 fields were inspected in each state.



Joseph Abikoye Senior Research Supervisor and Isaac Philip Monitoring and Evaluation Officer inspecting the CBSE rice farm at Fika community in Fika LGA Yobe state.

The inspection findings pointed to an encouraging adaptability of the CBSE program in new regions like Gombe and Yobe, and its continued sustainability in Adamawa and Borno.

During the inspection, several positive trends emerged. Despite experiencing periods of drought in some areas, the improved seed varieties demonstrated impressive drought tolerance, performing better than local varieties and helping to mitigate yield losses. The inspection teams observed that CBSE farmers demonstrated a strong understanding of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), as reflected in effective farm management and appropriate field isolation techniques. Many of the inspected fields adhered closely to seed production regulations, underscoring the farmers' commitment to producing high-quality certified seeds. Furthermore, there was a strong sense of unity and cooperation among CBSE groups, with their leaders providing inspiring examples through active involvement and leadership.

However, the inspection process was not without challenges. Some CBSEs faced difficulty accessing foundation seeds and, as a result, had to rely on certified seeds for planting which relegated their farms to grain production alone. Access to certain farms was also hindered by challenging topography and inadequate road infrastructure. Additionally, a few fields were adversely affected by drought or flooding, impacting production in these areas.

To address these challenges and support the continued success of the program, several recommendations emerged. It is essential to enhance coordination with NASC, ADP, and ADASP to ensure timely and accessible seed acquisition. Establishing seed fields in easily accessible locations will also be key in overcoming logistical hurdles. Farmers are encouraged to improve their understanding of weather forecasts to better prepare for environmental risks, with guidance provided by experts. Proper site selection is also recommended, ensuring suitability for the types of crops being cultivated. Finally, farmers need to be consulted on their preferred input types before procurement to better meet their specific needs.

The second NASC inspection commenced on October 21 and will extend till November 9, 2024. It will focus on CBSE's compliance with certification standards at the harvesting stage. This will be followed by collecting samples for laboratory analysis immediately after harvesting. These inspections are significant milestones in the Activity's efforts to promote sustainable agricultural practices and enhance the seed systems in Northeast Nigeria. By equipping CBSE farmers with the skills, resources, and oversight necessary for certified seed production, the Activity continues to drive resilience and growth within Nigeria's agricultural sector.



Private Sector Linkage Workshop Enhances NASC Collaboration with Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs in Gombe and Yobe States



■ The Activity's Market Systems and Livelihood Specialist, Dr Bassey Archibong, speaking with the CBSE participants at the Private Sector CBSE's NASC-Linkage Workshop held at Evolution Hotel, Gombe State.

On September 2, 2024, the Integrated Agriculture Activity organized a Private Sector CBSE and NASC Linkage Workshop at Evolution Hotel in Gombe State. This well-anticipated gathering aimed at fostering a lasting collaboration between Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs (CBSEs), private-sector seed companies, and the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) as part of a broader strategy to ensure sustainability as the Activity approaches its closeout phase. The workshop assembled key stakeholders from private seed companies, CBSE cooperative leaders, and NASC, providing a crucial platform to discuss future seed production and distribution within Northeast Nigeria.

In his opening remarks, the Market Systems and Livelihood Specialist, Dr Bassey Archibong, underscored the need for CBSEs to begin preparations for the next wet season by establishing partnerships with private sector entities. As the Activity winds down, he emphasized the importance

of CBSE cooperatives as drivers of sustainable development, urging cooperative leaders to engage their members in decision-making processes. This, he noted, would promote not only local economic resilience but also empower communities for long-term self-sufficiency in agricultural practices.

Representing the Yobe Agricultural Development Program, Director of Extension Services, Mohammed Mallam, expressed gratitude to USAID, IITA, and ICRISAT for their invaluable support in enhancing the capacity of CBSEs and extension agents. He highlighted the role of these organizations in providing breeder seed for seed companies and foundation seed for CBSEs, which has laid a strong foundation for agricultural growth. He encouraged CBSEs and seed companies to strengthen their collaboration to achieve food security across the states and Nigeria as a whole.

Dr. Sunday Ameh, Head of Business Development at the IITA Business Incubation Platform (BIP), presented BIP's role in delivering foundation seed to CBSEs, a



crucial step in enabling high-quality seed production. Representatives from key private sector partners, including Premier Seeds and Golden Fertilizer, also shared insights on sourcing foundation seed and fertilizer. Premier Seeds announced that by early 2025, their new processing and cleaning plant in Gombe State would enable easy access to certified and foundation seed for farmers and CBSEs across Northeast Nigeria, bolstering the local seed supply chain.

Participants had the opportunity to network directly with representatives from these organizations, as the private sector partners and NASC-certified entities, including BIP and Premier Seeds, shared contact information to facilitate ongoing support for CBSEs. This connection aims to streamline access to foundational agricultural inputs, ensuring that CBSEs have the resources needed to produce high-quality seeds.

The NASC Regional Director, Dr. Sagir Adamu Yakubu, concluded the workshop by stressing the importance of proper seed packaging for CBSEs, which is essential for maintaining seed quality and market appeal. This workshop highlighted the shared commitment of public and private stakeholders to empowering CBSEs, providing them with the tools and connections necessary for sustainable success in Nigeria's seed sector. As the Activity transitions toward completion, this workshop stands as a testament to its ongoing legacy in strengthening Nigeria's agricultural landscape and supporting the nation's goal of food security.

Empowering Participants with Risk Planning and Decision-Making Skills for Predictable and Unpredictable Threats

Between September 4 and 5, 2024, a workshop on risk planning and decision-making for predictable and unpredicted threats took place at the American University of Nigeria (AUN) training hall in Yola, Adamawa State. Organized by the Activity's Security unit led by Capt. (Rtd.) Abul-Kawsher Palash, the Activity's Field Security Coordinator, in collaboration with USAID Partner Liaison Security Operations (PLSO), the event was designed to strengthen participants' understanding and preparedness in cybersecurity, privacy, and personal safety. The workshop attracted participants across the Activity staff who received in-depth training on recognizing and mitigating threats in today's complex security landscape.

A major focus of the workshop was cybersecurity and privacy. With sessions facilitated by Partner Liaison Security Operations (PLSO), participants delved into privacy concepts and the importance of maintaining personal freedom from intrusion. The training covered essential awareness of cyber

threats, such as spam, phishing, and malware, including malware often disguised within legitimate software. Discussions also explored the risks associated with compromised websites, fake domains, and misleading URLs, equipping participants to recognize and navigate these dangers online.

The intersection of social media and cybersecurity was another critical topic. Emphasizing the increasingly sophisticated methods cybercriminals use to exploit social platforms like LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram, the workshop provided insights into tactics used for impersonation and intelligence gathering. Participants were cautioned against using USB devices with unknown origins, which may carry malware, and were reminded of policies prohibiting the use of non-government-furnished devices within secure systems.



Some participants at the Risk Planning and Decision-Making workshop with facilitators.

To prevent cyberattacks, the workshop emphasized robust password protocols and email security measures. Attendees were advised to use passwords with a minimum of 12 characters, change them every 60 days, and remain vigilant when receiving unexpected emails or links. Avoiding suspicious communications and refraining from forwarding chain emails were underscored as best practices.

The workshop prioritized cybersecurity, security awareness, and personal safety. Participants were taught to be mindful of their surroundings, practice situational awareness, and adopt common-sense risk mitigation strategies. Training covered essential travel safety protocols, including emergency planning, identifying local resources, and avoiding high-risk areas and contentious public events.

The session also addressed criminal and terrorism threats, covering topics like purse snatching, car theft, burglary, kidnapping, and militancy. Attendees were briefed on personal security practices to lower risk, such as avoiding conspicuous displays of wealth, refraining from nighttime travel, and maintaining

vigilance in public spaces vulnerable to terrorist activity.

This workshop significantly enhanced participants' capacities to anticipate and respond to security risks, whether predictable or unexpected. By fostering a deepened understanding of cybersecurity, privacy, and personal safety, the training equipped participants with the tools to navigate a rapidly evolving security environment with greater confidence and awareness.

“The workshop emphasized robust password protocols and email security measures, empowering participants to recognize and navigate cyber threats such as phishing, malware, and compromised websites.”



USAID Nigeria Feed the Future Team's Field Visit to Integrated Agriculture Activity in Adamawa State



■ The visiting USAID team with the NIAA, RRA, and State Government stakeholders at the Adamawa State Ministry of Agriculture, Yola, Adamawa State.

Between September 10 and 12, 2024, the USAID Nigeria Feed the Future team conducted an oversight visit to the Activity's programs in Adamawa State. This field assessment aimed to validate the on-ground impact of the Activity's interventions on local agribusinesses and farming communities. The visiting delegation included Dr. Ayoade Adetoye, Agreement Officer's Representative (AOR) for the Activity, and Dr. Hafsat Gremah, AOR for the Rural Resilience Activity (RRA). They engaged directly with several key partners and beneficiaries, including the Adamawa State Agribusiness Support Programme (ADASP), the Adamawa State Ministry of Agriculture, Asma'u Farms Limited in Girei LGA, and the Adalci Community-Based Seed Enterprise (CBSE) Cooperative in Yola South.

Through direct interaction with beneficiaries, the visiting team gained valuable insights into the challenges these groups faced before the Activity's involvement and how the intervention has positively influenced their livelihoods. Partners and beneficiaries spoke on the tangible benefits received, from increased productivity and access to quality inputs to improved market

linkages and enhanced agribusiness support.

Part of the suggestions of the team was that the IITA's business arm, GoSeed Limited, consider expanding into the northeast to strengthen private-sector linkages and provide CBSEs and seed companies with easier access to quality foundation seed. Additionally, Dr. Adetoye urged the Activity to commence preparations for the 2024 Annual Survey as captured in the 2024 work plan. As the Activity prepares to close on December 31, 2024, he extended his good wishes to all staff in their future endeavours.

“ Through direct interaction with beneficiaries, the visiting team gained valuable insights into the challenges these groups faced before the Activity's involvement and how the intervention has positively influenced their livelihoods. ”



SUCCESS STORIES



■ Deborah Zakari

Mrs. Deborah Zakari: From Homemaker to Entrepreneur in Kwayakusar, Borno State

Meet Mrs. Deborah Zakari, a wife, mother, and thriving entrepreneur in the Gusi community, Kwayakusar LGA, Borno State. Her journey from relying solely on her husband's income to becoming a successful businesswoman reflects the transformative power of the USAID Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity.

"My appreciation goes to USAID-IITA for changing my household's livelihood and nutritional status," says Mrs. Deborah, a 42-year-old mother of six, including two children under five.

Deborah's turning point came when she participated in a step-down training on small and medium-scale micro-processing of cereals and legumes, organized by the Activity on April 23, 2024, in her community. During this training, she learned how to process peanut burgers, which opened her eyes to a new business opportunity. Wasting no time, she invested N12,000 just two days after the training and started production. In just three days, she sold all her peanut burgers and earned a profit of N5,000, motivating her to produce more.

"Before the intervention, I had no business and depended solely on my husband. Now, I can support my family by contributing to my children's school fees and buying nutritious foods."

Since then, Deborah has increased her production

to four mudu of groundnuts, which she sells within four days. By June 20, 2024, just two months after starting, her total profit had reached N78,200. Her business has improved her family's financial situation and created job opportunities for local youths who buy in bulk and resell, earning additional daily profits of N500-N1,000.

Additionally, Deborah is saving N1,000 weekly with her Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) group, preparing for an even brighter future.

"I am grateful to USAID and IITA for changing my life."

Now a local employer and successful entrepreneur, Deborah is a shining example of how knowledge and initiative can lead to empowerment and lasting community impact.

“ Before the intervention, I had no business and depended solely on my husband. Now, I can support my family by contributing to my children's school fees and buying nutritious foods.

”



■ *Othniel Swade*

Othniel Swade: From Uncertain Farming to Abundant Harvests in Nigeria

Before USAID's intervention, Othniel and his fellow farmers faced significant challenges, relying on local seeds purchased from the market that yielded meagre returns. However, his journey from struggling with poor harvests to embracing a thriving farming system highlights the transformative power of knowledge and improved seeds.

"Before USAID came into the picture, we usually went to the market to buy seeds, which we would plant. However, when USAID arrived, they provided us with education and improved seeds," Othniel recalls. The difference was immediate and striking. Before receiving USAID's improved seeds, Othniel's family would farm one hectare of land and harvest at most 20 bags of crops. But with the new rice seeds, Faro 52, sourced for them by the Activity, their yield increased dramatically, reaching 35 bags or more per hectare—sometimes even as much as 50 bags.

"The seeds they gave us endure drought, resist crop infections, and spread well during harvest, unlike the ones we used to buy from the market," he explains. The improved seeds have increased his family's harvests and empowered Othniel with the knowledge to farm efficiently and sustainably.

Othniel strongly believes that these seeds are

essential to overcoming poverty and hunger in Nigeria. "I believe that in 5 to 10 years, our nation will be free from poverty because almost every farmer now understands the impact of these seeds. With this, households will be able to meet their basic needs, from health care to education and food security."

Before the intervention, Othniel's family would spend so much money on farming yet end up with minimal returns, often using their harvests to pay off debts. But now, with their increased yields, they can look toward a future free from hunger and financial stress. "I want to thank USAID for delivering us from the unhealthy lifestyle of farming without direction. We now farm with knowledge and good seeds, and this has brought progress to our farms." Othniel also calls on his fellow farmers to remember the importance of renewing seeds regularly: "As we have been taught, after using the same seed for three years, it is no longer a seed. We must get new seeds to continue having good crop yields."

With this newfound understanding and the improved seeds provided by USAID, Othniel and his community are on the path to sustainable farming, ensuring better livelihoods and food security for the future.



■ Markus Ganiel

Markus Ganiel: From Traditional Farming to Leadership and Prosperity with USAID

Markus's journey from struggling with low crop yields to becoming a prosperous farmer and a role model in his community highlights the transformative power of modern agricultural practices introduced by the USAID Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity (NIAA), implemented by IITA.

Before USAID came into the picture, we used to farm without considering the need for fertilizers or any proper farm management. We just planted and hoped for the best," Markus recalls. For years, farming for him was a matter of fate. Without knowledge or access to better methods, Markus harvested 7 to no more than 15 bags of maize on one hectare of land, and he believed this was a good yield. The use of traditional seed varieties and a lack of modern techniques kept his productivity and income low.

Markus's life took a turn for the better when the NIAA-supported Community-Based Seed Enterprise (CBSE) introduced him to improved maize seed varieties like SAM 27. These drought-resistant seeds responded quickly to fertilizers and showed potential growth within just three weeks of planting, marking a significant departure from the unreliable local seeds Markus previously used.

"I got to know about this program when they came house to house collecting data. I provided my information, and that's how I got enrolled," Markus recalls. He soon began receiving step-by-step guidance and training on best farming practices, from seed selection to fertilizer application, dramatically improving his agricultural output.

With the introduction of SAM 27, Markus dropped his traditional seeds and embraced the new variety. This decision led to a remarkable transformation. In 2020, Markus harvested 28 bags of maize—a huge leap from his previous yield. By 2023, his output soared to an impressive 41 bags. This more than quadrupled his pre-intervention yield, allowing him not only to feed his family but also to sell the surplus, significantly boosting his income.

"The first thing I benefited from the IITA program is the knowledge. They educated me on how to farm not just for consumption but also for seed cultivation," says Markus, who has since focused on maize farming, even during the dry season.

Beyond increasing his agricultural output, Markus's success has earned him respect in his community. He became a Community-Based Seed Entrepreneur (CBSE), mentoring other farmers on



the benefits of using improved seed varieties and modern farming techniques. His leadership has positioned him as a key player in decision-making processes related to agricultural development in Mada, where he actively participates in community meetings and agricultural initiatives.

Markus's journey illustrates the significant impact of modern agricultural practices. With the adoption of SAM 27 improved seeds, his maize yield increased from 7 bags pre-intervention to 41 bags in 2023, improving his family's food security and generating additional income. This success has not only transformed Markus's livelihood but also strengthened his leadership role in the community, making him a role model for other farmers. The success of Markus's model highlights the potential for similar outcomes across other communities. By training more farmers in the use of improved seed varieties and fostering leadership within the CBSE framework, widespread food security and economic empowerment can be achieved at the grassroots level.

Markus's story is a shining example of how the USAID Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity and IITA have empowered farmers to break free from the limitations of traditional farming and achieve greater prosperity.

"Most people now see me and think I'm a government worker, but I'm just a farmer," he says proudly. The transformation in his farming practices has not only increased his yields but also his financial status.

"Before, my house was made from grass, but these new farming methods have improved my income to the point where I've built a block fence around my house." Through the support of USAID and IITA, Markus has moved from a subsistence farming mindset to a future of financial security and agricultural progress. "Surely, I am a good beneficiary of the IITA program," he declares.



■ Ganiel in front of his house.

“ The first thing I benefited from the IITA program is the knowledge. They educated me on how to farm not just for consumption but also for seed cultivation. ”



■ *Hasanna (middle) with members of her family*

Hasanna Adamu: From Traditional Farming to Success with USAID and IITA

Hasanna, a rice seed farmer from the Kaule community of Shanni Local Government Area in Borno State, Nigeria, has experienced a remarkable transformation in her life thanks to the training she received through the USAID Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity, implemented by IITA. "Before now, we used to farm without proper knowledge of farming," says Hassan. Like many others in her community, she practised traditional farming methods, which yielded little results. However, after undergoing training with USAID-funded Feed the Future Integrated Agriculture Activity, her perspective on farming changed dramatically. She was taught modern farming techniques, which have made a significant impact on her yield and overall quality of life.

Hasanna recalls that when she first began implementing the techniques she learned, she started with one hectare of land. The results were so impressive that she expanded her farm to six hectares. "Before USAID came into the picture, I usually harvested at most 6 bags of rice. But now, I harvest 40 and above bags," she proudly shares. This increase in yield has not only improved her financial status but has also transformed her ability to provide for her family.

"I was able to give out two of my adult daughters in marriage, and I have made food available to my children; they eat and drink happily. We lack

nothing," says Hasanna, beaming with pride.

The training she received from IITA taught her essential skills, including when to apply fertilizers and how to manage her crops for better yield. As a result, she no longer has to rent land for farming, as she was able to purchase her plot of land through the income she has generated. "We got all of this through the knowledge gotten from USAID-IITA's program," she explains, highlighting the empowerment that comes with education.

Not only has Hasanna benefited from the program, but she has also passed on the knowledge to others. She shared her newfound farming techniques with a friend, who has also experienced success by adopting the practices taught by IITA. "I want to thank USAID and IITA for bringing this program to us. It has transformed our lives and scaled up our income. This is me saying thank you, and God bless you," she says in gratitude, acknowledging the life-changing impact of the program.

“ Before USAID came into the picture, I usually harvested at most 6 bags of rice. But now, I harvest 40 and above bags, ”



FEED THE FUTURE

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



Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity



“As stewards of sustainable development, we are committed to not only rebuilding livelihoods but also igniting a spark of hope and resilience in communities affected by adversity. The recent modifications and extensions granted by USAID underscore our dedication to adapt and respond to emerging challenges, such as the Ukraine–Russia conflict's secondary impacts. Together with our partners, we envision a future where agriculture becomes a cornerstone of prosperity and stability in Northeast Nigeria as a benchmark implementable across the country, ensuring a brighter tomorrow for generations to come.

Prakash Kant Silwal
Principal Specialist IITA/Chief of Party
USAID-Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity



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 18 Local Government Areas of Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe 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.

**Feed the Future Nigeria Integrated
Agriculture Activity IITA-Abuja,
Beside Old WaterWorks, Kubwa,
Abuja FCT, Nigeria.**

**Mobile: +234-9062927839
Email: p.silwal@cgiar.org**