



# FEED THE FUTURE

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

*Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity Monitor Edition 24, May 2023*



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**NIGERIA INTEGRATED AGRICULTURE  
ACTIVITY NEWSLETTER, EDITION 24,  
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## INTEGRATED AGRICULTURE ACTIVITY RECEIVES USAID FTf TEAM IN YOLA

Integrated Agriculture Activity recently received the USAID Feed the Future (FtF) team in Yola, Adamawa State. The team arrived in Yola, Adamawa State on Tuesday May 9, 2023, on an inspection tour of Implementing Partners' interventions and operations.

The FtF Coordinator, Ms. Jazmian Ohanyere, who led the team expressed her excitement about visiting implementing partners in the northeast. "We have always proposed a comprehensive tour of the northeast but waited for security clearance. This time when we eventually got the go-ahead, I told them there was no stopping us. There is so much to see in what implementing partners are doing here", she said.

The team was officially received by the Integrated Agriculture Activity (IAA) Deputy Chief of Party, Mr. OlukayodeFaleti and the Market Systems and Livelihood Specialist, Mr.

Bassey Archibong on behalf of the Chief of Party, Mr. Prakash Kant Silwal. Some of the partners and beneficiaries visited include Albit & Agro-Consult Limited and Asma'u Seeds, two of the Activity's partner seed companies on seed system development; Kautel Women Multipurpose Cooperative, a producer organization for cereal and legume micro processing and Yeshe Simon, a young entrepreneur trained by the Activity on Tomapepo (a mix of tomato, pepper, and onion) production.

During the meeting with the Activity staff, Ms. Ohanyere and her team, which included the Activity's Agreements Officer Representative, Dr. Ayoade Adetoye, appreciated IAA efforts at ensuring food security in the northeast. They also encouraged them to always remind their beneficiaries of USAID exceptional contribution to the development of the country and the northeast.





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The Feed the Future (FtF) team headed by its Coordinator, Ms. Jazmian Ohanyere (4th from left) and some members of Integrated Agriculture Activity Senior Management Team (SMT), poses with Yeshi Simon (5th from left), a young beneficiary of the Activity who specializes in the production of Tomapepo (a blend of tomato, pepper and onion).



## 3rd Annual Agricultural Inputs Fair

### BORNO

BOSADP, Biu  
30 & 31 May, 2023

Emir's Palace,  
Shani  
1 & 2 June, 2023

### ADAMAWA

Ribadu Square,  
Yola  
5 & 6 June, 2023  
Presidential Lodge,  
Gombi  
7 & 8 June, 2023

### GOMBE

GSADP, Gombe  
10 & 11 June, 2023  
Kaltungo Stadium,  
Kaltungo  
12 & 13 June, 2023

### YOBE

Potiskum ADP,  
Potiskum,  
15 & 16 June, 2023  
Fika Football Field,  
Fika  
17 June, 2023

## 9:00am Daily



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## IITA, NASC Sign MoU on Seed Development in Northeast Nigeria

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to support sustainable seed production and supply in northeast Nigeria using the Community Based Seed Enterprise (CBSE) model under the USAID-funded Feed-the-Future Nigeria Integrated Agriculture Activity.

At the signing ceremony in Abuja on May 25, 2023, the Chief of Party (Integrated Agriculture Activity), Mr. Prakash Kant Silwal, who signed the agreement on behalf of IITA highlighted the achievements of the organization in ensuring food security through the unwavering support of USAID in the northeast. He said over 60,000 smallholder farmers have been trained in climate-smart and good agricultural practices in Adamawa and Borno States. "With the expansion of the Activity to Gombe and Yobe States, IITA will be collaborating with NASC to develop modules and organize training for 2,250 Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs (CBSEs) and partner seed companies in the four intervention states on improved seed production and marketing techniques", he said.

On his part, the Director-General of NASC, Dr. Phillip Ojo, said the relationship between the two bodies is a long-standing one. "We have both collaborated in different ways. Now, we are joining forces to help support 2,250

Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs. We will also work on improving smallholder farmers' access to certified seeds in Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe States. The goal will be to contribute to increasing their yield and income", he explained.

The MoU will take immediate effect and elapse by December 31, 2024. Apart from the partnership increasing production, availability and timely access of quality seeds by smallholder farmers, it will also strengthen access to inputs and market linkages along the seed agricultural value chains that would result in increased income among farmers and improved nutrition status of households among consumers.



The Chief of Party, Integrated Agriculture Activity, Mr, Prakash Kant Silwal and the Director-General of the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) signing the Memorandum of Understanding in Abuja





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## Taking Improved Seed Production and Marketing Techniques to Community-Based Seed Producers



The journey of metamorphosing Community-Based Seed Producers (CBSPs) to Community-Based Seed Entrepreneurs (CBSEs) has commenced in earnest. By December 31, 2024, Integrated Agriculture Activity would have transformed 2,250 CBSPs to CBSEs who belong to functional co-operative societies capable of transacting businesses in the seed value chain independently.

Consequently, the Activity took the first step at orientation in Gombe and Yobe - the new intervention states – in order to familiarize the Extension Agents (EAs) and Women in

Agriculture (WiA) agents with the operations of the Activity. This was succeeded by training in improved seed production and marketing techniques in Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe States.

The training which was organized in collaboration with the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) explored topics in modern methods of seed production such as attributes of grain and seed, essential elements of seed production, requirements for plants' growth and development, harvesting and post-harvest management, and safe use of agro-chemicals.



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## IAA Field Security Coordinator Receives Chief of Army Excellence Award



Integrated Agriculture Activity (IAA) Field Security Coordinator, Captain (rtd.) Palash Abul Kausher, has received the Nigerian Army 'Chief of Army Excellence Award' during the Nigerian Army Farms and Ranches Limited (NAFRL) Poultry Management Workshop held on May 2, 2023, at the Land Forces Simulation Centre, Giri - Abuja. Kausher was presented with the prestigious award for his remarkable support of the military in their non-kinetic effort for peace and security, especially in the northeast.

Presenting the award to Captain Kausher and other awardees on behalf of the Chief of Army Staff, Lieutenant General Farouk Yahaya, Maj. Gen. Omotomilola Akintade (Chief of Logistics, Army Headquarters Abuja) commended their outstanding contributions to peace and security in Nigeria. "We are grateful to individuals like Captain Kausher for assisting the Nigerian Army in continuing northeast operations by building capacity and creating useful inter-agency information sharing platforms through the Activity initiative." He was joined by the Executive Director (NAFARL), Major General MT Durowaye, for the presentations.



In his response, Captain Kausher appreciated the Nigeria Army for the honour and their relentless efforts in always defending the sovereignty of Nigeria. He also appealed for renewed security support to the Activity. "My Chief of Party, Mr. Prakash Kant Silwal, and other members of the Senior Management Team also deserve my appreciation for the support given me to accomplish several feats on my job", he said.





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## Gender Mainstreaming Training (GMT): Demystifying Gender Perceptions Among IAA Staff and Partners

The quarterly Gender Mainstreaming Training (GMT) for staff and partners of Integrated Agriculture Activity was held in Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe States in collaboration with the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development; Foundation for Resilient Empowerment and Development (FRED), under the EU/UNDP-supported Spotlight initiative aimed at eliminating violence against women and girls. Starting on Tuesday, May 2 in Yola, Adamawa State, the training was targeted at reviewing Gender Concepts and Perceptions, enhancing stakeholders' understanding and highlighting the importance of Gender Mainstreaming in Agricultural Extension Services. Importantly, the training sought to provide more insights into emerging trends in Gender – Based Violence (GBV) and enhance understanding of the urgent need to prevent and respond to GBV cases in the host communities.

The training focused on Health, Safety and Environment (HSE), Gender Concepts and Perspectives, Gender-Based Violence (GBV) – meaning, types, causes, effects and mitigation, Components and Guiding Principles for GBV data collation, Gender - Sensitive Agricultural Extension Services amongst other topics. The highpoints of the training were discussing the theme of this

year's International Women's Day: "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality" and the question-and-answer sessions. The facilitators include the Activity's Youth and Gender Facilitator, Mr. Shakiru Quadri; Representative of FRED, Mr. James Job; Representative of the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Mrs. Charity Sebastian; Representative of Plan International, Juliet Abel Yerima.

The gender training culminated in a stepdown curriculum for other trainers at the community level.



Participants at the Gender Mainstreaming Training in Yola, Adamawa State.





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## 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

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