

**IITA****Youth Agripreneurs***Agriculture is the future*

# BULLETIN

Issue 39 October 2020

## IYA-trained Agripreneur invents pesticide vending machine in communities

*A busy factory staff of Ng'wala Inventions Limited**Some samples of the pesticide*

Edmond Ng'walago was trained by the IITA Youth Agripreneurs, in Tanzania. He is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Ng'wala Inventions Limited, a company that produces bio-pesticides for controlling Fall Army Worms, Mealy bugs and other farm pests.

Edmond started his research on the use of product made from organic wastes such as rabbit urine and cassava peels in 2018 and completed it in July 2020. He now has what he calls Ng'wa biopesticides and booster.

The research for the product development was conducted on Demo farms in Lake zone, Central zone, Coastal zone, Southern Highland zone and

Northern Highland zone of Tanzania.

As it is common to distribute pesticides and fertilizers to small holder farmers in bottles and sacs, Ng'wala Inventions Limited has invented efficient and effective ways to distribute the produced bio-pesticides and booster.

The company invented vending machines that are installed in different rural centers where crop farming activities are practiced on a large scale. Prototype testing was conducted and the innovation has attracted the interest of several investors for outscaling in Tanzania.

The product has been submitted to the

National Biological Control Program for registration and certification. It has proven effective in control of pests such as Fall army worms, Aphids, Mealy bugs, White flies, Tuta absoluta, Caterpillar, Weevils, Grasshopper, Diamond Black moth, thrips, and Fungus while also boosting the growth of the crops.

The digital way of distributing bio-pesticides using vending machines has placed Ng'walago on the global landscape leading to his selection as a finalist for the 2020 University Startup World Cup organized by Venture Cup Denmark.

The event is scheduled to hold between 17th and 20th of October, 2020.

## IYA kicks off agribusiness projects across five states in Nigeria

The IITA Youth Agripreneurs have commenced the implementation of projects focusing on engaging youths along various agricultural value chains in five states in Nigeria.

The projects are being implemented in partnership with two organizations, the Mastercard Foundation and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Partnering with Mastercard Foundation under its Young Africa Works Strategy,

the IITA Youth Agripreneurs aims to enable 242,724 young Nigerian women and men to build skills and secure dignified and fulfilling work opportunities in the agrifood value chain over the next 5 years.

The Young Africa Works- IITA project focuses on building innovative and inclusive agrifood systems for young people between the ages of 15 and 35 and will support them to secure employment (targeting 70 percent of the beneficiaries) or self-employment

(30 percent) across three Nigerian states, Kaduna, Kano, and Lagos, over the next five years targeting 70 percent women participation.

The project will leverage and scale existing IITA youth initiatives including the Start Them Early Program (STEP)- a mechanism that improves agricultural instruction in secondary schools in a manner that better directs career paths toward modern agriculture and agribusiness. Partnerships with the Commissions of Education in each of



A map showing locations where IITA currently operate Youth in Agribusiness projects in Nigeria

the focus states will lead to a massive out-scaling of the STEP program.

Through its partnership with IFAD, IYA is focusing on empowering young people in Imo and Oyo States in agribusiness skills through Rural youth employment opportunities: Support to integrated

agribusiness hubs (Agrihub) in Nigeria.

The project known as IFAD- Agrihub is aimed at realizing IFAD's vision in empowering African youth through the establishment of a network of youth-centered Agribusiness Hubs in Nigeria. These Hubs are intended to

be transformational and integrative of agricultural production and processing through skills impartation among employment track youth and equipping and backstopping young entrepreneurs

Apart from offering capacity-building, training, and mentoring, IFAD Agrihub pilot enterprises test and refine modern agricultural technologies, while demonstrating them to the wider agricultural community to attract the growth of advisory services around them.

As the agribusiness hubs grow in number and sophistication they form mutually beneficial networks, in technology transfer, market intelligence, digital agriculture and policy advocacy. The hubs serve as magnets for commercialization, attracting both new products and financial services

Over the next five years, the project will be targeting 2200 direct beneficiaries 70 percent of which are expected to find meaningful employment and 30 percent starting independent agribusiness enterprises.

IYA already has existing projects in Imo, Delta, Rivers, Borno, Adamawa states and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

## Agripreneurs react to Dr Sanginga's tenure extension as IITA DG

The news of the one-year tenure extension handed the Director General of IITA, Dr Nteranya Sanginga filtered in on Wednesday, 12th of September 2020, at about 15.02. The Chairman of IITA's Board of Trustees, Christian Borgemeister who broke the news to IITA staff, said the extension will ensure stability for

IITA "during a period of unprecedented uncertainty because of COVID-19 as well as the transformation of the CGIAR to the One CGIAR."

Dr Sanginga's five-year term was initially proposed to end in November 2020 but the board feels it will be far too risky for the centre to experience a transition in

leadership during such a moment of volatility and health crises. And we strongly believe that this extension will ensure a smoother succession to a new leadership." Beneficiaries of the DG's laudable initiatives, IITA Youth Agripreneurs (IYA) and Start Them Early Program (STEP) expressed their views about the new development

### Evian Dan-Aighewi- Cameroon



Evian Dan-Aighewi

The extension is a testament to the visionary and exemplary work he

has been doing at the helm of affairs of the institution. His unshakeable commitment to the development of Africa has allowed young individuals (myself included) to benefit immensely through the various programs initiated and nurtured under his watch. On behalf of myself and my colleagues at ENABLE Youth Cameroon, I say congratulations and wish the DG further success in the running of the great institute.

### Abimbola Ayanniyi- Lagos, Nigeria

The extension is a blessing to IITA as an institute and myself. I am very certain that the ripple effect of this singular act will be felt across the continent. We appreciate him for his hard work,



Abimbola Ayanniyi

commitment and discipline. I can testify on how he resumes work early everyday to better the lives of millions of Africans and how he stays late into the nights thinking of funding opportunities to



support agricultural research in Africa. He has wiped away fears of unemployment from the hearts of many. He is indeed a living legend and I am proud to be under his tutelage and leadership. Thank you for serving the people Sir and cheers to continued excellence.

### **Consent Sibeso- Zambia**



*Consent Sibeso*

IYA is privileged to have gotten an opportunity to leap to greater height with his support young agripreneurs across Africa. Who knows maybe his tenure extension is the reason for laying, yet again, an indelible posterity for young Africans especially those desirous of venturing into agriculture and agribusiness. This brainchild of his should outlive him and the beneficiaries. IYA-Zambia, is incredibly gladdened by his tenure extension and wish him well. "Wean us off not Dad, till IYA is of age". Congratulations!

### **Silver Ahanonu- Imo, Nigeria**



*Silver Ahanonu*

Congratulations to Dr Sanginga. On behalf of my team in Imo State, I extend gratitude to IITA's Board of Directors for making this possible. His efforts in bringing youths into the agricultural space and empowering them has been impeccable, commendable and deserves another extension of mandate. Although change is necessary in

every professional environment and I know the time will come when the DG will leave for another energetic leader to take the baton, but I also think that time is yet to come. Dr. Sanginga has molded many leaders and he is an Icon to many. Thank you for accepting to stay for one more year.

### **Waheed Oni- Ibadan, Nigeria**



*Waheed Oni*

His remarkable work contribution to IITA and African youth cannot be forgotten. He has exhibited a clear vision and focus to create positive impact even in the midst of challenges and opposition. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to explore my strength to build a foundation for strong career pathway in Agribusiness.

### **Dolapo Omojanjuola- Borno, Nigeria**



*Dolapo Omojanjuola*

I am really happy to hear about his tenure extension. I am sure that under his great leadership, wisdom and guidance, IITA will strive to greater heights and achievements. Thank you for all you are doing for all young people, and thank you for what you will still do. I wish you a fulfilling tenure.

### **Bankole Akinyele- Adamawa, Nigeria**



*Bankole Akinyele*

'Baba' as he is fondly called is a great leader, a strategist, a friend and father of the youth. He has taught many of us how to fish and we appreciate him for his good works for youths across the continent. His tenure extension is not a surprise as he has proven to be exceptional in so many areas. He is indeed the chosen one.

### **Veronica Kebwe- Tanzania**



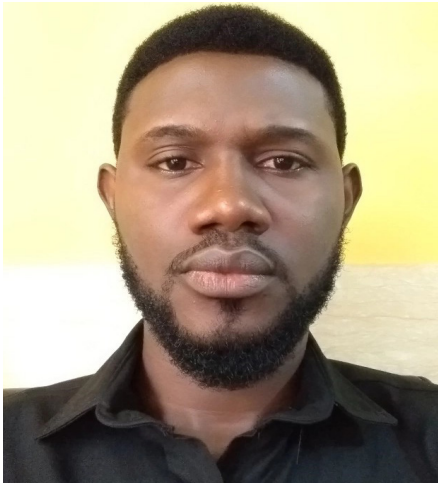
*Veronica Kebwe*

Congratulations Sir. We appreciate your leadership; you are really a role model to many of us! It is my prayer that God's wisdom continues to lead him.

### **Arome Alfa- Delta, Nigeria**

The board has indeed taken the right decision. Dr. Sanginga's leadership and strategic decisions have helped to navigate IITA through very difficult economic and financial times. As a beneficiary of one of his many legacies, the creation of IITA Youth in Agribusiness Unit has indeed fulfilled one of the strategic mandates of IITA in developing, positioning and enriching rural and urban youths in practice and administration of Agriculture and





*Arome Alfa*

Agribusiness towards poverty alleviation. Once again congratulations Sir.

### **Beckie Nakabuggo- Uganda**



*Beckie Nakabuggo*

The extension symbolizes the expansion of Agripreneurship to other African countries. He planted a tree and the branches are growing. The board has indeed made the right decision.

### **Barivure Bekee- Ibadan, Nigeria**



*Barivure Bekee*

It is with great delight that I congratulate the Director General of IITA on the extension of his tenure. For the past 9

years, IITA has been under the leadership of Dr. Nteranya Sanginga and it has been a transformative period for the institute. The institute has experienced a great recognition because of the passion Dr. Sanginga has for it. The youth in agribusiness office has also been a great beneficiary of his selfless leadership and we are so excited about the extension. I wish him success as he continues to lead the institute to greater heights.

### **Dorcas Ogunwole- Onne, Nigeria**



*Dorcas Ogunwole*

Dr. Sanginga's tenure extension is well-deserved; it is a good news. His passion for young people made him the father of the Youth in Agribusiness program, an initiative that has greatly impacted lives, that transcends class, race and gender; I am a witness to this very profound truth. Baba's mentorship and tutelage in the last 6 years have presented several young and old minds alike, the platform to be a development and transformational ambassadors. The future in perspective thus presents us with nothing but hope and excitement knowing that he will still be holding our hands and steadily leading us through tough terrains for much longer, and that we can still draw from his wealth of experience. Congratulations Baba, this is for all of us.

### **Noel Mulinganya- DR Congo**



*Noel Mulinganya*

Certainly, Dr Sanginga's hardwork, commitment, passion and openness contributed to the trust renewed in him. For the youth program, he has been a perfect boss, leader, and mentor. He is a good role model because he has shown us that being diligent and passionate to work is very important in achieving dreams. Congratulations for this new tenure.

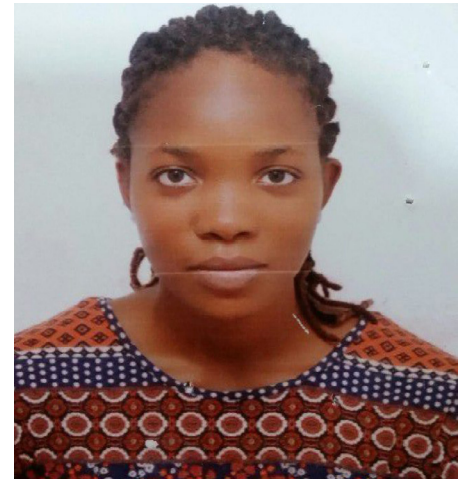
### **Tomiwa Adesanya- Ibadan, Nigeria**



*Tomiwa Adesanya*

I am highly delighted about this great news and I know this will positively impact the young agripreneurs in Nigeria and Africa as a whole. It is a limited but timeless period for us to learn more from our beloved mentor.

### **Bola Larinde- Ibadan, Nigeria**



*Bola Larinde*

Dr Sanginga is a visionary and an innovator. This extension will bring a great deal of new things and innovations not only for IITA but for the youth group. Looking forward to more laudable achievements

### **Adetola Adenmosun- Ibadan, Nigeria**

We appreciate the board of IITA for a thoughtful decision. For me, the development means additional years





*Adetola Adenmosun*

of greater achievements, new initiatives for agricultural transformation; dynamic advocacy and resource mobilization, and better visibility for IITA. It also means more jobs for young people in the agricultural sector, food security and poverty alleviation for millions of households in Africa. Cheers to vision 2022. Congratulations Sir

### **Adedayo Adefioye- Ibadan, Nigeria**



*Adedayo Adefioye*

It is another recognition of Dr Sanginga's exemplary leadership. He has placed IITA at the centre of African agricultural transformation, and have shown to us all that agriculture can give hope of sustainable and dignified livelihood to people, particularly to the younger generations. His passion for empowering young people in the continent is magnificent. He is a true mentor and worthy of emulation. Wishing him another successful tenure in office.

### **Yemi Adunoye- Ibadan, Nigeria**

This is one of the rare occasions where I know 100% how I feel- extremely delighted. Amidst all the negativity in 2020 this is one news I am entirely grateful for. His leadership, empathy,

strength, vision and capacity should be studied because we need more men like him in leadership across our continent. IITA could not have gotten a better leader to take us through these times.

### **Nathaniel Malgwi- Kano, Nigeria**



Warm congratulations to DG I am confident that under his renewed leadership, IITA's leading role in advancing the values and principles of agriculture will continue to be strengthened. The youths stand ready to work harder to actualizing our shared objectives. Please accept my best wishes.

### **Evelyn Ohanwusi- Abuja, Nigeria**



*Evelyn Ohanwusi*

It is exciting to learn about the extension of the tenure of Dr. Nteranya Sanginga, the father of youth agripreneurship across the continent. Thank you DG for granting at every instance an opportunity for young people to excel and make a difference. Wishing him a successful tenure with ground breaking achievements towards the transformation of African Agriculture.

### **Eniola Olanrewaju- Ibadan, Nigeria**

I was so delighted at the news of the extension of your tenure, while this did not come as a shock, the news only confirmed the impacts you've made are valued and appreciated. Rosalynn Carter once said "A leader takes people where they want to go, but a great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go, but ought to be". You have been a great leader and I'm glad people, especially young agripreneurs still have the privilege to pass through your mentorship and leadership. I once again reiterate my sincere congratulations to the Father of IITA Youth Agripreneurs.

### **Lorraine Mutinda- Kenya**

Dr. Sanginga has always been enthusiastic about helping youths develop their skills, and improve their capacities and business ideas. This commitment has seen many rural youths improve their standards of living by tapping into innovative agricultural practices. We are glad and humbled that he continues to champion the youth agenda in Africa.

Tunasema asante!

### **Idowu Osun- Ibadan, Nigeria**



*Idowu Osun*

I foresee greater opportunities for the African youths. I believe he will champion more causes that will affect the lives of millions of African youths positively. I will like to conclude by saying that If every leader be like Dr Nteranya Sanginga the world would be a better place to live.

### **Ifedayo Ibironke- Ibadan, Nigeria**

His tenure has given hope to youths who didn't see themselves surviving. His vision became a compass that gave us direction to our future, the highest legacy of his is believing in us (youths) even when we ourselves are wearied. Congratulations Sir on your extension, it is to more



life, more hope, more future assured.



*Ifedayo Ibironke*

### **Bwigule Chimene- DR Congo**

Je vous félicite pour l'extension de votre tenure au poste de directeur général



*Bwigule Chimene*

de l'IITA qui, je le Sais, n'est pas attribué au premier venu. Je suis certain que comme d'habitude vous allez vous surpasser. Certes Vous avez rêvé d'être chef d'un projet vous l'êtes devenu, ainsi de suite jusqu'à devenir directeur général cependant il Ya un rêve qui ne

s'est pas encore réaliser, voir le future Dangote issue du groupe des jeunes dont vous êtes le mentor j'espère que cette extension vous permettra de voir ce rêve s'accomplir et je vous le souhaite vraiment. Toute mes félicitations et surtout beaucoup de courage. Nous les jeunes, vous souhaitons tous le meilleur et vous renouvelons notre dévouement et assiduité au travail.

### **Frotchery Farms**

We are super excited. It's a testament of his impactful work as the DG of IITA, especially building and nurturing Africa's future billionaire agripreneurs. We wish him greater achievement during his stay and we shall continue to work hard to remain a success story to his good work".

The young people join the staff and management of IITA in celebrating Dr Sanginga- 'an agent of change' and wish him a greater success in 2021, 2022 and beyond.

# ENABLE



# TAAT

## ENABLE-TAAT receives Makueni County government support

The Makeuni County Government in Kenya has made the ENABLE-TAAT compact operating in Kibwezi a beneficiary of its agribusiness scheme, Makueni Youth in Agribusiness Empowerment Program (MYAEP).

The ENABLE-TAAT compact was selected from the 20 agribusiness groups operating in the county, as recognition for its exemplary activities in technology dissemination, agribusiness promotion and engagement of young people in the county.

The compact was supported with input such as screen house, and water tanks to boost irrigation activities to further strengthen its activities for expansion.



*ENABLE-TAAT liaison trainees receiving the items from the Makeuni government officials*



# ENABLE-TAAT expands agribusiness parks activities across project sites

The ENABLE-TAAT initiative for the establishment of an agribusiness park is increasingly gaining stability with the establishment of more clusters on aquaculture, poultry, cassava, orange fleshed sweet potato and maize.

The agribusiness park is where young people trained under the program can cluster to operate agribusiness enterprises sharing common resources.

## ***In Zambia;***

The fish farming Agribusiness Park cluster in Lusaka, Zambia, has completed the construction of a 6500-fingerlings capacity fish pond. Mr. Martin Salanda, a fish farmer and consultant provided technical support and mentorship to eight Lusaka-based youth Agripreneurs trained under the program. These agripreneurs were supported in establishing a fish farming enterprise with the construction of fish pond and input materials. Mr. Salanda provided them mentorship in the production, processing and marketing of fish.

The enterprise is expected to generate an income of about \$5000 per cycle of six months once it becomes operational. Also, the team intends to establish

a fish farming enterprise in Mkushi District, which will be fully operational as soon as the fish enterprise for Lusaka Agribusiness Park cluster is completed. Besides this, two fish ponds are being constructed with technical support from Chalata Fisheries, a government owned fish farming enterprise. There are also plans to revitalize six other fish ponds as part of the enterprise expansion.

Still in Zambia, 10 youths that have been imparted with sufficient skills in the

poultry business were supported with 1000 birds and poultry accessories for the establishment of broiler production enterprise. These trainees identified a poultry facility which could be leased to them for the purpose of this business right after the training. They acquired knowledge in the production, value-addition (smoking) and marketing of chickens as their business will focus on sale of live broilers and value-added smoked chickens.



*Youths constructing a fish pond*



*Some beneficiaries of ENABLE-TAAT in Imo state*

## ***In Imo;***

In Imo, a total of 24 participants have been selected as beneficiaries to manage the ENABLE-TAAT Agribusiness park activities. These Agripreneurs will operate aquaculture, poultry, maize, and OFSP enterprises. The team has leased a facility to accommodate the Poultry and Aquaculture enterprise.

## ***In Onne;***

The compact organized a training on technological approach to cassava production and processing with focus on a hands-on technological approach to cassava production, post-harvest handling, and processing of cassava. The trainees were drawn from the neighboring states of Anambra, Akwa

Ikpo, Cross River, Ondo, and Rivers. Cassava is a household food in the Niger-Delta region consumed daily in different forms such as garri, loiloi, akpu, abacha, and starch. High Quality Cassava flour (HQCF), odorless fufu, and garri were the primary products processed by the trainees at the multi-purpose processing factory located at Onne. The HQCF processed by the trainees was subsequently used to bake confectionaries such as cassava bread, biscuits, cookies, tidbits, meat pie, and cake. Cassava leaf soup was as well prepared and served with garri and odorless fufu. Most of the trainees were familiar with garri processing, but were new to odorless fufu, HQCF, and standardization/hygienic procedure of food processing required by the food regulatory body for business start-up approval. Post-training, the group formed a cluster with a focus on the cassava value chain. Two hectares of cassava field has been established. Processing of cassava roots into garri, odorless fufu, and flour are to commence soon. The trainees will leverage the multi-purpose processing factory located at Onne incubation center. During this period, mentoring and nurturing will continue until the start-up evolves into an independent enterprise.



## Young Africa Works-IITA project: how it started



Debaters at the summit; DG-IITA, Dr Nteranya Sanginga (L) with a Research Fellow-ILRI, James Sumberg (R)

Over the next five years, 242,724 young Nigerian women and men will acquire skills and secure dignified and fulfilling work opportunities in the agrifood value chain through the partnership between IITA Youth in Agribusiness initiative and Mastercard Foundation

The fruit of that partnership, is the Young Africa Works-IITA project, which is focused on building innovative and inclusive agrifood systems for young people between the ages of 15 and 35 in Kano, Kaduna and Lagos. However, the seed of that partnership was sown about five years ago in Cape Town, South Africa.

Mastercard Foundation had invited IITA Director General, Dr Nteranya Sanginga, to participate in a two-day summit that was held on 29-30 October 2015 the Old Harbour Conference Centre West Hotel in Cape Town.

The summit, tagged 'Young Africa Works' brought together a community of stakeholders dedicated to finding solutions to youth unemployment in Africa. The summit was aimed at engaging young people, while ensuring

that their voices, perspectives and ideas were heard. The summit featured sessions where issues around demand-driven skills development in agriculture; agricultural finances and organization; and mixed livelihoods in agricultural value chains were discussed.

The high point of the two-day event was a debate between two prominent scientists, Prof James Sumberg, a research fellow from the Institute of Development Studies, and Dr Sanginga of IITA. The two scientists robustly presented opposing views on the topic, 'Agriculture as a Sector of Economic Opportunity for Youth in sub-Saharan Africa'.

While Dr Sanginga argued that with the right skills and support, the youth could be productively engaged in agriculture, Prof Sumberg was of the view that there should be provision for the research component in the concept of agriculture before implementation by youths.

According to Sanginga, "given opportunities and incentives, and mind-set change, rural youths can profitably

be redirected toward agribusiness, service provision and market-oriented agriculture, with huge impact upon their rural communities." He stressed that "different models developed by IITA, AGRA, FARA, and CTA offer stepwise approaches to strengthening the skills of youth in agribusiness and are ripe for expansion and integration".

The audience resolved the debate by casting votes, 23 votes for Sanginga's position and 18 for Sumberg's, thereby creating a fertile ground for the Young Africa Works-IITA project as constituted today.

It would also be recalled that ahead of that summit, Dr Sanginga organized a debate among the young people in IYA to hear their views on the topic. Oyindamola Asaaju and Ibironke Ifedayo who took part in the debate made it on the trip to South Africa with Dr Sanginga.

At the summit, Asaaju and Ifedayo were able to engage the CEO of Mastercard Foundation Ms Reeta Roy to express their views about the topic and propose a working relationship which materialized between 2019 and 2020 when the Young Africa Works strategy, Nigeria program, was initiated.



## 7 million Nigerian youths to get support in agriculture in 10 years



*Ms Chidinma Lawanson giving a welcome address virtually during the Young Africa Works-IITA project inception workshop*

About 7 million Nigerian youths will be empowered in the agricultural sector by the Mastercard Foundation over the next 10 years.

The Foundation's Country Head for Nigeria, Ms Chidinma Lawanson stated this during the virtual inception workshop organized by the Young Africa Works-IITA project in July. She said the Mastercard Foundation sees the agricultural sector as a game changer that will provide dignified work for young people.

According to her, the Foundation is focusing on addressing employment challenges in Africa and ensuring that by 2030, 30 million Africans will find dignifying work by creating systems and bringing in financial inclusion where young people are supported and have the opportunity to learn.

Her words: "Out of the number, the target is to enable 10 million Nigerians with 7 million in the agricultural sector. It is not called jobs, but work. Many women have constraint in getting dignified jobs and financial loans for business. The program presents good opportunity for future change even in our younger generation. We intend to achieve food security especially in the face of the pandemic. This will aid faster recovery and resilience. E learning is a key strategy to enable continued learning even during pandemic, as it will guarantee youth access to quality

trainings and bring financial support for youth to start and expand their businesses. IITA will leverage on other implementing partners like Sterling Bank, EDC, Babbagana, Cellulant and others. The young people should be prepared for work in the next 10 years" she stated.

In his speech, the Deputy Director General, Partnerships for Delivery at IITA, Dr Kenton Dashiell stated that the youth need to be empowered with knowledge to become successful entrepreneurs and fulfilled individuals. He said the Nigerian youth have great potentials that would serve as solutions, rather than problems, to the country. He expressed belief that the project will have a huge impact on the youth of Nigeria by making them see agriculture as first choice.

In their goodwill messages, the representatives of government from Lagos, Kaduna and Kano states all pledged to support IITA in its quest to transform the lives of young people through the project.

The project Executive Manager, Ms Aline Mugisho stated that the project will work with all partners to ensure remarkable footprints at the implementation sites. She laid emphasis on the fact that women are a catalyst for bridging the economic gap and for women to know that their roles are beyond being wives, mothers or sisters, the project will drive the strategy that will showcase women's potentials and talent for growth.

The five key objectives of the Young Africa Works strategy include; Strengthening agricultural trainings within schools, vocational centers and farmer movements; providing youth, particularly young women with skills to better compete for decent employment and own successful businesses in agriculture; transitioning of vocational centers into Youth Agribusiness Parks; developing youth-sensitive loan and agribusiness support programs in collaboration with financial institutions that recognize the specialized needs of the youth; and establishing a mechanism that propels the benefits of the Young Africa Works model across Nigeria.

The focus on young women will continue to be emphasized and all partners are encouraged to offer sensitization that encourages 'girl power' and leadership among young women. The special role of women within the agriculture sector is incorporated throughout the project and it requires at least 70% participation of young women. A similar proportion of trainers and enterprise managers are also women.

IITA is working with the African Project Development Centre (APDC), Ekimiks Nigeria limited, Babangonna, Sterling bank, Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL), National Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Services (NAERLS). The workshop also recorded the drafting of state implementation plans, Monitoring/Evaluation and communication plans.

## Meet the project team

### **Aline Mugisho**

Executive Manager



Ms Mugisho before joining IITA, worked as a Senior Project Manager for the European Youth Education Centre (EJBW) in Germany where she is also completing her Doctoral studies in Public Policy. She previously worked as a Senior Consultant on various programs funded by the USAID, integrating gender and youth in agriculture such as Food Security Programme (FSP) and Food Security (FS). She has seasoned experience in youth empowerment and development, migration studies, gender and conflict resolution, diaspora dynamics, transitional justice and participatory research. She previously worked on various research projects at the University of Witwatersrand (African Centre for Migration and Society) such as Migrating for Work Research Consortium (MiWORC); Regional Perspectives on Local Governance of Migration; Migrant's Needs and Vulnerability; and Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion Research Project.

She holds a Master's degree in Forced Migration Studies from Wits University, a Bachelors in Journalism and Communication (ISA). Ms. Mugisho's additional experience includes project management, education, monitoring and evaluation, humanitarian assistance, conflict mediation and reconciliation, psychological care for victims of war and poverty, lobby and advocacy for migrants, and refugees and asylum seekers. Her work has been recently honored by the Dispute Resolution Research Centre, Kellogg Foundation (Research Residency

Award), Northwestern University, USA; the International Association for Conflict Management (IACM) Scholar Award by the Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict and Complexity (AC4), University of Columbia; the Coordinated Management of Meaning (CMM) Award by the CMM Institute for Personal and Social Evolution at the FUGIC in Munich, Germany; and the Open Society Foundation Civil Society Scholar Award (CSSA). Her region of expertise is Sub-Saharan and the Great-Lakes Regions of Africa where she has worked in the past as a journalist, researcher and activist.

### **Evelyn Ohanwusi**

Training Coordinator



Ms Ohanwusi holds an MBA in Agribusiness and is a member of the Project Management Institute (PMI). She has 7 years' experience in agribusiness advocacy, agribusiness incubation, agri-financing, enterprise development, resource mobilization, project design and development for agriculture/agribusiness related programs. She also has expertise in project management. She has managed youth in agribusiness projects funded by private sector, African governments and international organizations/donors including African Development Bank (AfDB), Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, Chevron Nigeria Limited, Hello Tractor Inc, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Prior to her engagement on the Young Africa Works-IITA project, Evelyn was the program manager for the AfDB funded ENABLE-TAAT program and she supported the

implementation of the AfDB flagship ENABLE-Youth program in six countries (Cameroon, Ghana, Cote D'Ivoire, Madagascar, Senegal, Sudan). Evelyn has co-authored several publications about youth engagement in agriculture and provides excellent content for development of training materials and knowledge management tools.

### **Adetola Adenmosun**

Communications officer



Ms. Adenmosun has five years' experience in knowledge management, marketing, public affairs, and media relations. She holds a National Diploma and Higher National Diploma in Mass Communication, as well as a Postgraduate degree in Public Relations. She is skilled in implementing strategic communication plans and providing crosscutting analysis related to youth in agribusiness related work. She has coordinated a series of annual project reporting to ensure high-quality, timely reporting to donors on results achieved and resources used.

She has developed numerous information and knowledge products in collaboration with partnerships, public information and reports that demonstrate the role of young people in addressing unemployment, food production and sustainability. She has led efforts in organizing, packaging, utilizing and disseminating relevant information to inform project design and implementation and for external audiences. She contributed to a chapter of 2015 African Agriculture Status Report where she provided a case study of how the IITA Youth Agripreneurs are contributing to the agricultural



productivity in sub-Saharan Africa. Also in 2017, she co-authored a publication reflecting the new approaches of IYA towards its operations across six countries. She also co-authored some training manuals used in capacity development activities in the youth in agribusiness office at IITA. She has produced over thirty-four editions of newsletters, brochures, pamphlets and fliers in English and some local languages. Her experience also spans multimedia development as she has produced many documentaries on case-studies, success stories and results of various projects engaging youth in agriculture. Prior to her engagement with Young Africa Works-IITA project, Ms. Adenmosun was the Communication and Knowledge Management officer for ENABLE-TAAT project funded by the African Development Bank.

#### **Seyi Akpanika**

Assistant Training Coordinator



Ms Akpanika holds a Bachelors' Degree in Natural Resource Management from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana. She has worked as a trainer and advocate for youth involvement in agriculture, helping to open the minds of young people to the vast opportunities available in the agricultural value chain as well as the sustainability impacts of becoming entrepreneurs. With over 4 years' experience in training facilitation and enterprise management, Seyi has worked for the Youth in Agribusiness Office of IITA where she developed an entrepreneurship program in the IITA value chain and built a network of well-educated and motivated young entrepreneurs. She was involved in the key activities of IYA including youth advocacy,

enterprise management and trainings.

She also worked as a consultant for the AfDB funded ENABLE-TAAT project facilitating trainings, supporting establishment and operation of youth agribusiness incubation center and parks, facilitating the establishment and running of businesses established by the trained youths. She also assisted in monitoring and evaluation activities of trained youth and their businesses.

#### **Adedayo Adefioye**

STEP Liaison officer



Mr Adefioye who holds an MBA in Agribusiness, is an experienced project manager with over 5 years in the private and public sectors. He is currently coordinating the Start Them Early Program (STEP), an initiative of the International Institute to Tropical Agriculture which focuses on engaging young people in secondary schools in agriculture and showing them the career paths in agribusiness. Mr Adefioye develops, implements and manages program budget.

He coordinates the team members in project sites to ensure that program goal and objectives are met. He supports evaluation and assessment of the program in Nigeria, Kenya and DR Congo, while establishing and maintaining partnerships with key stakeholders; private and public (governmental) organizations. He is also vast in workforce development and management, project implementation, and risk and portfolio management. Mr Adefioye holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry from University of Ado-Ekiti and an MBA in Agribusiness from Federal University of Agriculture in Abeokuta, Nigeria.

#### **Doyin Oludayo**

Administrative Officer



Ms Oludayo holds a degree in Banking and Finance and has served as an administrator on several projects funded by multi-national companies. She worked as the finance and administrative officer under the Start Them Early Program (STEP), an IITA initiative 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. As the finance and administrative officer, Ms Oludayo serves as the link between the project administration and development unit team in the management of contracts, agreements and project's statutory annual audits.

She was in charge of financial operations for the project and ensured timely and accurate delivery of financial reports. She ensured thoroughness and compliance with the donor's financial reporting standard and ensured that the projects funds were appropriately utilized by close of each fiscal year.

#### **Isuwa Zacchaeus**

Kaduna State Coordinator



Mr Isuwa is a young dynamic and enthusiastic youth dedicated to exploring the business potentials in Agriculture. He is a graduate of Crop and Environmental Protection from the College of Agriculture, Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria. He also has a certificate in Business Management. Mr Isuwa was a pioneer member of the Youth in Agribusiness team in Abuja where he led the advocacy and training activities in Gombe, Niger and Nasarawa States. He also facilitated trainings and established enterprises across various Agricultural commodities for numerous farmer groups and youth groups.

**Veronica Magaji**

Kaduna State Training officer



Ms Magaji holds a B.Sc. in Agricultural Economics and Extension from Modibbo Adama University of Technology in Adamawa State, Nigeria. She has five years' experience in building capacity of young people in agribusiness. She has participated in organizing a series of training programs for youths in Borno State Nigeria under the N2Africa, a project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She also coordinated the effort of the IITA youth in agribusiness office in Kano State in developing training manuals and curriculums for developing the capacities of unemployed young people along agricultural value chains and technologies that led to the establishment of youth led agribusiness enterprises. She has also mentored some trainees in rural areas and assisted in conducting monitoring and evaluation for established businesses.

This led to a compilation of trainee database for impact assessment of the projects implemented. She also

led the team of young people in the IITA Youth Agripreneurs in Kano to identify, screen and select sites, and determine equipment needed for training and agribusiness incubation.

**Zainab Abubakar**

Kaduna State Administrator



Ms. Abubakar has over three years' experience in administration and finance. She holds an Ordinary National Diploma and Higher National Diploma in Accountancy from Kano State Polytechnic. She previously worked as the logistics and administrative officer of the IITA Youth Agripreneurs in Abuja. Ms Abubakar has served as an administrator under various projects implemented in the Youth in Agribusiness office where she was in charge of budget management and expenditure, while also coordinating the collation of scheduled reports from projects sites.

She also ensured strict compliance with project budget allocations and timely filing of reports on fund advances and utilization, coordinated project management activities in relation to resources, materials and equipment in adherence to the approved procurement plans.

**Bimbo Ayanniyi**

Lagos State Administrator



Ms Ayanniyi is a certified administrator and Personnel Manager with specialty in project financial and administrative records. She is an analytical administrator with quantitative skills in executing numerous tasks. Her career started as an administrative assistant at Abiodun D. Doherty & co before moving to the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) where she rose from the position of a Customer Relations Assistant to Executive Assistant to the Director General of the institute in 2017, a position she occupied until her engagement with Young Africa Works-IITA project.

As Executive Assistant to the DG, Ms Ayanniyi performed a broad variety of administrative tasks including managing meetings, commitments, appointments/schedules, and relating with Board members, donors, foundation staff, and others on matters related to programmatic initiatives as directed by the DG. She assisted with design and development of relevant presentations of the DG.

She holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Public Administration from Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria and she is an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (ACIPM).

She holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Public Administration from Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria and she is an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (ACIPM).



### **Nathaniel Malgwi**

Kano State Coordinator

Mr. Malgwi is an agribusiness enthusiast with over 8 years' experience in the agricultural sector. Prior to his appointment as the Kano State Coordinator, he had served as the Input Distribution Coordinator at Intrio Synergy Limited; Business Manager at Plan Agric, and Production Officer/Agro-Marketer at Devine Reward Services. He has coordinated the training and activities of Agro-dealers across 9 states in Nigeria; managed the training of farmers in Soybean production in Benue, Borno,



*Nathaniel Malgwi*

Kaduna, Kano, Kwara, Nasarawa and Niger States in collaboration with CABI and also managed an Anchor Borrower Program in Kaduna State under ISL in collaboration with AFEX and Thrive Agric. Mr. Malgwi has managed a personal poultry farm in the city of Maiduguri which folded up due to the insurgency in the area. He holds a bachelor's degree in Agriculture with specialization in Animal Science from University of Maiduguri. He has proficiency certificates in Nutrition (An Introduction), M&E Fundamentals, Gender and M&E, Data Quality, and Gender and Health System Strengthening from Global Health eLearning center. He has also attended several Agribusiness Development Courses organized by IITA in collaboration with EKIMIKS Nigeria Limited.

### **Muritala Gbadamosi**

Kano State Training Officer

Mr Gbadamosi has 7 years' experience in providing smallholder farmers with proven technologies in agricultural commodities. He has worked with young

farmers in the northern part of Nigeria in demonstrating the impact of deploying proven agricultural technologies for their businesses. He coordinated this



*Muritala Gbadamosi*

effort on over 200 hectares of land for production of high yielding crops such as cowpea, soybean, maize through a project funded by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

This led to the establishment of commercial fields of maize, soybean, cowpea, as well as value addition. His work experience spans the maize breeding unit at IITA where he participated in the distribution of drought-tolerant maize to farmers in the northern part of Nigeria. He holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in History and Diplomatic Studies from Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria.

### **Abdulsalam Muhamme**

Business Development Officer



Mr Abdulsalam is an experienced agronomist, agribusiness professional and extension specialist. He specializes in agro business promotion with focus on agro entrepreneurship, agro technology development/dissemination, and private sector agricultural initiatives.

He was a Project Support Consultant with Niger State Fadama Coordination Office and also the Technical Adviser to the Agribusiness Investment Scheme of Agriculture Graduates Association of Nigeria where he facilitated youth involvements in various Agricultural commodity value chains; Rice, Sorghum, Maize, Fishery, Poultry, small and large ruminants amongst others. Abdulsalam was a leading member of a team that successfully piloted and integrated 313 smallholder farmers to the first CBN private anchor borrowers scheme (NIRSAL Window) in Niger State. He headed the extension team to ensure strict adherence to best agricultural practices to the 313 farmers that participated in the CBN/ABP program. He is a COREN certified Engineer from Federal University of Technology Minna and Ahmadu Bello University Zaria where he bagged B. ENG and MSc respectively.

## **Goodwill Messages**

### **Africa Projects Development centre (APDC)**

APDC has done the proof of concept on all the three value chains we are replicating in Lagos: aquaculture, horticulture and poultry as well as value addition. Off-farm training is also conducted, where experts train the youth in class and teach how to write business plans and APDC has relationship with financial institution for support. This in-turn gives employment multiplier effect, if we train one person, the person should employ or train at least one to five persons.

**Dr . Chiji Ojukwu, MD of the Africa Project Development Centre**

### **Women Farmers Association of Nigeria (WOFAN)**

I look forward to implementation of a project where women can play important roles especially in value addition and make agriculture demand driven.

**Hajiya Salamatou Garba**



## Photo Speaks



*The Young Africa Works-IITA team with the Deputy Governor of Kano State, Dr Nasiru Gawuna (M) during a familiarization visit to the government of Kano.*



*The team with the Emir of Rano, Alhaji Kabiru Muhammed Inuwa during the team's community engagement in Rano Emirate*



*The team introducing the STEP component of the projects to students in secondary school*



*Understanding the needs of beneficiaries of a project is essential. The team conducted a baseline survey to identify needs and design strategies to meet the demands*



*During the baseline survey, the team also identified facilities that could serve as training and internship centre for the youth. This is a 10,000 capacity poultry which will be utilised for the training in Kano state*



*A bird eye view of the internship centre for horticulture production*





*Women participation is crucial in the project. The team conducting orientation for women*



*We are catching them young and that is why we are engaging secondary school students in agriculture at an early stage*



*Young Africa Works-IITA project team during a familiarization visit to the permanent secretary of Lagos State Ministry of Education Ms Abosede Adelaja*



*The team during a visit to the Commissioner for Agriculture in Kaduna State, Hajiya Halima Lawal*



*A bird's eye view of an identified training facility at Makarfi, in Kaduna State*



*A potential internship poultry facility identified in Epe, Lagos state*



## IFAD restates commitment to job creation for rural youths

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has reiterated its commitment towards creating jobs for the teeming unemployed youths around the world.

The IFAD Lead Technical Assistant and Task manager for the Integrated Agribusiness Hub Nigeria project, Tom Anyonge, stated this during the virtual inception workshop held in July to officially launch the project and interact with partners and representatives of the donor organization on proposed project operations.

The Integrated Agribusiness Hub, a five-year project funded by IFAD in collaboration with GIZ, is geared towards empowering African youth through the establishment of a network of youth-centered agribusiness hubs across Africa. The project is being implemented by IITA and Songhai centre.

These hubs are intended to be transformational, integrating agricultural production and processing through skills impartation among employment track youth (70% of trainees), and equipping and backstopping young entrepreneurs (30% of trainees). The project will help young people access employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in the fast-growing horticulture, aquaculture, poultry, cassava, maize, and agricultural processing sectors in Nigeria.

During his speech at the workshop, Anyonge stated that a youth strategy and an action plan were formulated based on the studies that had been conducted, and findings show that there were gaps in the successes recorded with respect to the massive expansion of jobs for the youth.



His words: "Young people in developing countries were consulted and this led to the implementation of the Youth Action Plan (YAP) to make the IFAD investment youth-inclusive. Presently, the three cycle programming "IFAD 11" (2019-2021) has about 80-90 investments covering over 100 developing countries and is positioned to be 50% youth inclusive.

The Deputy Director General, Partnership for Delivery at IITA, Kenton Dashiell, while speaking reaffirmed IITA's commitment to empowering youths in agriculture, stating that the experience of the institute in engaging young people will contribute to expected impact of the project.

The founder and Director of Songhai centre, Rev. Fr Godfrey Nzamujo, said the centre will contribute in building a new system that would be pro-ecology, sustainable, inclusive, and aimed at unlocking the potential of the youth.

The Special Adviser on Agribusiness to the Oyo State Governor, Debo Akande,

reiterated the state's support to the program and promised to integrate the program into their six existing agricultural programs in the state.

Likewise, Dr. Adoyi Ochigbo, Director General, Anambra Imo River Basin Development Authority (AIRDBA) in Owerri, expressed the state's willingness to support the program and create an enabling environment for the project to run smoothly

For the project's kick off, Oyo and Imo states were chosen strategically to accommodate youths from neighbouring states. The Oyo hub managed by IITA will host youths in the South-Western part of the country (Osun, Ondo, Ogun and Lagos states) while the hub in Imo managed by Songhai will accommodate youths in the South-South/South-East states (Abia, Anambra, Rivers, and Delta).

It is expected that in the second year of the project, the scope of coverage will



extend to the Northern part of the country.

The workshop had in attendance representatives from IFAD, GIZ, IITA, Songhai, APDC, Ekimiks and AIRDBA in

Imo state. The Oyo state Government, financial institutions, ICT firms, job recruitment firms, youth organizations, input suppliers, serial entrepreneurs, federal and state government

agricultural intervention initiatives and other existing IFAD projects in Nigeria were also represented.

## Meet the project team

### **Ibironke Ifedayo**

*Project Coordinator*



*Ibironke Ifedayo*

Mr Ibironke holds a B.Sc. in Agronomy and an MBA in Agribusiness with over 5 years' experience in agribusiness project management and aquaculture enterprise development services. Prior to his current position as the coordinator for the IFAD Agrihub project in Nigeria, he has managed several projects including Community Youth in Agribusiness Group (CYAG) project funded by Chevron Nigeria Limited (CNL), WorldFish TAAT Aquaculture Compact project in Nigeria, and provided support services to other youth projects like BMGF, USAID, N2Africa, ENABLE-TAAT, etc. He also worked as a capacity development officer under the IITA Youth in Agribusiness office. He contributed to the publishing of training manuals and guides, as well as proposal and budget development. His work is not limited to Nigeria as he has helped facilitate several sessions internationally.

### **Waheed Oni**

*Agribusiness hub Manager*

Mr Waheed is an experienced professional who combines technical expertise with managerial acuity with over 6 years' experience in developing, operationalizing and implementing high impact Agripreneur, Agribusiness, Youth and Sustainable development projects. He has led and supported the implementation of youth in agribusiness funded project by the private sector and international



*Waheed Oni*

agencies such as United States Agency for international Development (USAID), International fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), African Development Bank (AfDB), and the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). Between 2016 and 2018, Waheed served as Coordinator of USAID funded IITA-Hello tractor Project which has generated numerous start-ups along the value chain. Prior to this new appointment, Waheed worked as an international fellow at Pasona Group Inc, Japan (Awaji Youth Federation Division) where he led a group of young global professionals to implement Agripreneur, food and Agriculture-related projects. One of his major achievement was the successful design and establishment of Youth and United Nations Global Alliance (YUNGA) initiative in Japan. Waheed is a pioneer student of the University of Ibadan School of Business MBA Agribusiness Program. He is a graduate of Water Management from Federal University of Agriculture (FUNAAB) in Abeokuta, Ogun state. .

### **Promise Ajuruchukwu**

*Value Addition Technician*

Ms Ajuruchukwu holds a B.Sc. in English Language. She was trained in food processing by IITA and has over 4 years' experience in confectioneries and other value added products. She has managed the Youth in Agribusiness processing



*Promise Ajuruchukwu*

centre where she was involved in product development, and offering training to interns of various donor funded projects. She has trained many youths in value added products such as soymilk, orange fleshed sweet potato bread, cake, doughnut, cassava added products such as 100 percent cassava cake, bread, tidbits, cassava chin-chin and many more.

Mr Azeez holds a B.Eng. in Metallurgical

### **Ibrahim Azeez**

*Hub Technician*



*Ibrahim Azeez*

and Materials Engineering from the Federal University of Technology (FUTA) Akure. He has four years experience in Farm Management as Technical Officer

*... continue on page 20*

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and Maintenance Engineer. He worked with IRB Agro Services as Technical Officer where he provided high-level technical support by developing and maintaining incubators and other equipment to ensure effective and safe use. Due to his technical experience, he was trained under ENABLE-TAAT Project on Greenhouse Construction and general agriculture practices in Nairobi. Ibrahim has grown rapidly in his professional career by setting up a construction firm in the Eastern part of Nigeria which focuses on construction of greenhouses, poultry pen houses, fish ponds, solar dryers, battery cages and so on. He has trained Imo Youths on Agribusiness and Farm Management.

**Jeremiah Omologbe**

*Hub Farm Manager*



Mr Omologbe holds a B.sc in Plant Biology and Biotechnology. He has four years work experience in farm management, sales management, marketing and enterprise development. After his youth service he worked with IRB Agro Service Limited as sales manager, where he implemented a strategic sales plan that expanded the company's customer base. He resigned and joined the IITA Youth in Agribusiness in 2017 and worked with the AfDB funded ENABLE-TAAT project as the Business Manager in Imo State from 2018-2019, working with youth agripreneurs and trainees in refining their business ideas and identifying business opportunities. He collaborated with X'Gems Global Seed Limited, a seed company in Imo State, in training of youths and women in rural areas in horticultural practices and agribusiness from May 2019 to December 2019.

## Celebrating our father, mentor...

We share in your vision, We appreciate your effort in assisting Africa.

Your selflessness and belief in the younger generation has placed many of the youths on a higher pedestal.

You have revived the aspirations and hope of many youth. Your dream of a revitalised agricultural sector reflects in the innovations driven by IITA.

This will also place IITA in a better position as the institute transitions to one CGIAR.

We wish you an impactful tenure.

**#wesupportvision  
2022**



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# SNACKS

&

*Drinks*



## AVAILABLE

- Doughnuts
- Puff-Puff
- Meatpies
- Cakes
- Tid-Bits

- Bread
- Buns
- Ice Cream
- Coffee
- Croissants

- Fruit Juice
- Yoghurts
- Smoothies
- Soy Milk
- Soft Drinks



7.30 am- 5.00pm



I.Y.A. Processing Centre,  
Yam Barn.

For trainings and bookings, kindly contact us on: +2348039784254.