

# IITA Youth Agripreneurs Annual Report 2014



IITA

Youth

Agrípreneurs

ANNUAL

REPORT

2014

## Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Summary.....  | 1  |
| Goal and Pillars.....                                 | 2  |
| Geographic Location.....                              | 3  |
| Production and Operation.....                         | 3  |
| Root, Tubers, and Vegetables.....                     | 4  |
| Cereals and Legumes.....                              | 5  |
| Fisheries.....  | 6  |
| Partnership and Marketing.....                        | 7  |
| Marketing and Processing.....                         | 10 |
| Capacity Building.....                                | 10 |
| ICT and Communication.....                            | 11 |
| Monitoring and Evaluation.....                        | 12 |
| IYA Replication.....                                  | 13 |
| Youth Agribusiness Development Initiative (YADI)..... | 14 |
| Youth Employment in Agricultural Program (YEAP).....  | 15 |
| External Engagements.....                             | 16 |
| Financial Information.....                            | 19 |
| IYA Organogram.....                                   | 23 |
| The IYA Team.....                                     | 24 |
| Other Highlights.....                                 | 25 |

## SUMMARY

Over the last 12 months, the IITA Youth Agripreneurs (IYA) has been involved in the production of cassava, maize, soybean, plantain; culture of fish and pigs; and processing of soymilk in IITA and other locations. IYA has produced 53 tons of certified maize seeds from 20 hectares of land planted in Mokwa and Zaria; 37 hectares of cassava were planted with an expected yield of at least 25 tons per hectare which amounts to 125 tons and worth between ₦12,000 - ₦17,000 per ton; and a total of 3,500 suckers of plantain were multiplied with an average cost benefit ratio of 1:1.7 for these crops.

The activities of all units in the IYA arm were implemented and thus scaled up as part of the group's operations.

In the previous year:

- The fishery and livestock unit stocked about 20,000 fish and were able to sell 6.5 tons of catfish with an average weight of 1.7 kg at the rate of ₦500,000 per ton. Ten pigs that will be sold off for meat were raised.
- Soymilk processing yielded about 6,200 liters.
- Under Communication, IYA produced eight editions of newsletters including three special editions. The social media sites experienced growth. For example, the Facebook likes grew from 1107 to 1438, Twitter followers from 195 to 404, and blog views are now at 7,470.
- A total of 12 training sessions were conducted for IYA; some of these include fish farming training organized by Durante, Web 2.0 organized through CTA, ToT workshop, value addition and postharvest training, to mention a few. The group successfully carried out four major training for other youth groups, including the Borno youth training under the N2Africa scheme funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- More partnership engagements arose as the visibility of the group continued to increase in 2014.

## GOAL

To reorient rural youths towards more productive engagement in agriculture through expanded opportunities in agribusiness, service provision, and market-oriented agriculture

## PILLARS

- Improved seed technology and processing options
- Facilitating access to markets and seed distribution
- Skill development in agriculture
- Business development
- Forging strategic alliances

## Geographical Location

The IITA Youth Agripreneurs coordinated all activities ranging from crop production, processing, marketing, and training from within the IITA Headquarters in Ibadan, Oyo State. Activities of IYA were also implemented in major geopolitical zones in Nigeria as highlighted in the map below. There are plans to cover other zones in Nigeria in 2015 and beyond.



## Production and Operation

In 2014 IYA increased tremendously its production capacity through increase in hectareage and commodity diversification which saw the introduction of fisheries and piggery.

The Production and Operation arm coordinated the entire effort of the production value chain comprising of Cereals & Legumes, Roots, Tubers & Vegetables, and Fishery & Livestock units. The activities and achievements include:

- successfully acquired 20 hectares of farm land in Mokwa, Niger State;
- successfully acquired 20 hectares of farm land in Zaria, Kaduna State;
- successfully acquired 21 hectares of farm land in Osoogun, Oyo state;
- facilitated the construction and reconstruction of 13 earthen ponds;
- facilitated the construction of an ultramodern hatchery;
- successfully erected a greenhouse for vegetable production donated by Dizengoff Nigeria;
- supervised the cultivation and maintenance of all crop fields of IYA in all locations within Ibadan and other States in Nigeria;
- supervised the youth wing of the HQCF project in Kwara, Ekiti, and Ogun States;
- supervised the youth wing of the CTA project in Ido LGA of Oyo State.

### Roots and Tubers

The Roots and Tubers Unit is responsible for the production of cassava, plantain, and vegetables which were started in 2014. IYA established its cassava fields in Osoogun and Ido LGA of Oyo state; harvested some fields within IITA and Olokoto in Oyo State; and engaged in vegetable production and plantain sucker multiplication within the IITA campus.

**Cassava:** IYA cultivated a total of 21 hectares of cassava at Osoogun and 25 hectares at Ido; and harvested 37 tons of cassava roots and 3,678 bundles of cassava stems from fields in IITA and Olokoto.

**Plantain:** 4,142 suckers were multiplied from both the field and macropropagation chamber.

**Vegetables and fruits:** Various vegetables and fruits were produced for the IITA community (staff and residents) including cauliflower, okra, sweet corn, pawpaw, lettuce, spinach, cucumber, watermelon, and green beans.



### Cereals and Legumes

The Cereals and Legumes Unit is responsible for the production of improved seed varieties in the value chains of maize, soybean, and cowpea. With fields located in various locations including Mokwa, Niger State; Zaria, Kaduna State; and Ibadan, Oyo State, the unit was able to produce the following within 2014:

**Maize:** IYA cultivated 9.8 hectares in Mokwa; 10 hectares in Zaria; and 3.5 hectares within the IITA campus in Ibadan, amounting to 23.3 hectares in all. These fields yielded 54.6 tons of maize seeds.



**Soybean:** IYA established 8.4 hectares of soybean field (2 ha in Zaria and 6.4 ha in Mokwa), realizing a total of 7.9 tons of seeds.

**Cowpea:** In 2014, IYA introduced and successfully cultivated 4 hectares in Zaria with harvest expected at the beginning of 2015.





### **Fisheries and Livestock**

The year 2014 marked a new milestone for IYA as the group diversified from crop production alone to embrace animal production.

**Fisheries:** The group ventured into fish production in May 2014 after a 2-week intensive training with Durante Fish Industries.

This led to the creation of 4 ponds within the institute that were stocked sequentially with a total of 20,000 fish (*Clarias* species).



The group also established a state-of-the-art hatching facility which is expected to commence operation in 2015.



**Livestock:** The group commenced the rearing of pigs intended to be sold for meat; six growers and four weaners were purchased as start-up for this new commodity.



## Partnership and Marketing

In 2014, IYA engaged in several partnership agreements – some formalized and others in the pipeline.

### Projects

- Nitrogen to Africa (N2Africa) Project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Support to Agricultural Research and Development - Strategic Crops (SARD-SC) funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Enhancing the Competitiveness of High Quality Cassava Flour (HQCF) Project funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Cassava Transformation Agenda (CTA) of the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD)

### ❖ Forging partnerships with various stakeholders

A number of partnerships are in the pipeline. This has resulted from talks with private individuals and institutions, the government and collaboration with IITA. The proposed partnerships, some of which have been formalized, include:

- Nigeria Agricultural Transformation Agenda Support Program (ATASP) from the African Development Bank loan/grant disbursed to the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Taiyo Industry for aquaponics
- Dizengoff Nigeria/Balton CP for improved agribusiness solutions
- University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan for soymilk distribution
- Abuja Technology Village for the replication of the IYA model
- Chevron Nigeria Limited for the replication of the IYA model
- The Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library Youth Center (OOPLYC)
- IFAD, under the *Creating Opportunities for Rural Youth (CORY)* Project



### Photos of IYA members with collaborators and partners



IYA with representatives of Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library and Youth Center



IYA with group from Abuja Technology Village (ATV)



IYA members with a team from Dizengoff West Africa Nigeria Ltd.



IYA members, IITA Director General –Dr Nteranya Sanginga and Ondo State Governor –Dr Olusegun Mimiko

## Marketing and Processing

The unit which works closely with the production arm in creating awareness about products and markets generate income from sale of about

- 7.8 tons of maize seed
- 0.33 tons of soybean seed
- 2,090 plantain suckers
- 27.9 tons of cassava roots
- 7.9 tons of *gari*
- 6.5 tons of fish
- 5 tons of various vegetables
- 6,193 bottles (300 mL) of soymilk

One of IYA's objectives was to use crop processing options, and thus the group started activities in this direction with the introduction of a new product – IYA Soy Milk.



A mini processing center for soymilk production was established and operations begun in 2014.

Furthermore, the marketing unit, in a bid to expand its client reach, forged strategic alliances with existing and potential clients.

## Capacity Building

The training unit actively engaged in both internal and external training with a view to develop competencies and capacities of members.

Ten internal training were organized within the year, ranging from postharvest handling, Web 2.0, training the trainers (ToT), farm mechanization and tractor handling, financial accounting, and marketing, among others.

Similarly 30 youth from Calabar and 20 youth from Borno were intensively trained on agribusiness and best-bet agronomic practices under OASES consultancy and the

N2Africa project, respectively. Training was also conducted at the Agribusiness Center in Ore, Ondo, under the Wealth Creation Agency (WECA) program.

In addition, other training were carried out in various locations where partner projects such as the HQCF, Cassava Transformation Agenda, etc. were implemented; majority were conducted in the southwest region of Nigeria.

The training unit also successfully trained 20 rural farmers in Ijebu-Ijesha (ENACTUS) to showcase the many areas IYA contributes to in building a healthy society while assisting the farmers on innovations and best-bet agronomic practices for increased harvests.



Training on project development



Training on mechanization

### ICT, Communication, and M&E

This unit is the mouthpiece of IYA. It is charged with creating public awareness as well as forging internal and external linkages for the group. Through its various communication tools and media, IYA is now becoming a household name across Nigeria and beyond.

The group has been actively using social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter, with a 23.02% increase in the numbers of likes from 1,107 in 2013 to 1,438 in 2014. The Twitter page had about 195 followers in 2013, which increased tremendously by 52% to 404 followers in 2014, thanks to the unrelentless efforts of this unit in ensuring that all activities of the organization are showcased to the world.

In addition, the ICT, Communication, and M&E team manages a blog site for the group with a total of 61 blog posts for 2014, 115 comments, and an impressive 7,470 views over a period of 10 months. The group also makes use of YouTube to air their 19 videos.

IYA promotional items such as branded shirts, bags, caps, etc. have also been designed by this unit to increase the visibility of this young and growing organization.



IYA's publications

## Monitoring & Evaluation

The M&E team in 2014 ensured that IYA goals were measurable and achievable, targets were met, and objectives were achieved.

M&E was implemented in major processing zones identified by ATA in selected states along the Lagos-Kano corridor: IITA headquarters in Ibadan, Oyo state, Mokwa in Niger state, and Zaria in Kaduna state.

The M&E unit provided feedback on the implementation progress of IYA activities, monitoring and evaluating project implementation and execution against agreed criteria, with a view to ensuring that the objectives of the group are being achieved.

The year 2014 also witnessed the M&E team

- Develop a monitoring and evaluation plan
- Monitor, update, and report on IYA activities
- Conduct field monitoring visit
- Conduct critical reflections with unit heads
- Develop and identify monitoring and evaluation tools
- Evaluate IYA activities

## Replication of IYA Model

Following the successes of IYA in Ibadan and the African continent, thanks in a large part to IITA, the IYA model has now been replicated in different locations across Nigeria and Africa at large, with 20 Borno youth in Nigeria, 35 in DRC, and 20 in Tanzania leading the next wave of Agripreneurs. Many other countries will be reached to further expand the impact of IYA with a view to providing youth in Africa with a lifeline—creating employment through agribusiness, networking, and ensuring the exchange and cross-fertilization of ideas.



IYA members in DRC



Agripreneurs in Borno State





IYA members with trainees from Calabar in Cross River State

### **YADI Conference (28-30 May 2014)**

The IYA model is largely experiential and needed to be validated in a larger context. This approach uses clusters of youth who are provided resources and expertise to explore options for income generation, and are then asked to develop business plans and enterprises around the most promising ones.

The approach was recently tested among 120 youth in three additional countries; DR Congo, Tanzania, and Zambia. These youth groups have initiated their own suite of agribusiness ventures that illustrate a way forward in solving chronic unemployment in rural areas.

In May 2014, the Youth Agribusiness Development Initiative (YADI) Conference was conducted at IITA, Ibadan, in conjunction with the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa. It was attended by policymakers, donors, research institutions, and youth groups, among many other stakeholders.

This event led to the development of a concept note for a program titled *“Empowering Novel Agribusiness-Led Employment for Youth in Africa”* (ENABLE Youth). The concept note was favorably received by AfDB alongside other donors including the Gates Foundation and IFAD. Once proven, the gains forged by the ENABLE program can be used for expansion through adoption within national strategic plans and rural development actions of the initial 20 country partners.



YADI conference

### Youth Employment in Agriculture Programme (YEAP)

In 2014, the Federal Government of Nigeria inaugurated a youth program called Youth Empowerment in Agriculture Programme (YEAP).

The program, which was launched in December at the presidential villa in Abuja by Nigerian President, Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, is designed to reposition the agricultural sector by involving, developing, and raising 760,000 youth in agribusiness within the next five years.

IYA will be playing a major role in this project through its economic activities along the agricultural value chains including commercial farming, processing, value addition, logistics, and transport and marketing of value-added agricultural produce.



IYA representatives with the former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria – Dr Goodluck Jonathan and former Minister of Agriculture – Dr Akinwunmi Adesina

## External Engagements

IYA was represented in many forums, meetings, policy dialogues, and fund-raising activities on agriculture, agribusiness, food security, youth.

- ❖ 2014 edition of the Africa Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) IITA, AGRA and AfDB side event tagged *"Youth Engagement"*



- ❖ African Development Bank's Commemoration of the Africa Year of Agriculture and Food Security at AfDB Headquarters, Abidjan, on 29 September 2014.



- ❖ African Union Private Sector and Agribusiness Forum in Kigali, Rwanda, on 5 to 7 November 2014.



- ❖ *“High Level Consultation on PostHarvest Losses (PHL) Reduction”* organized by the Africa Union Commission (AUC) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on 22-23 October 2014 in Johannesburg, South Africa.



- ❖ FARA/CGIAR collaboration workshop on “*Climate Change, Youth Engagement, Food Security and Agricultural Transformation in Africa*” on 20-22 October 2014 in Nairobi, Kenya, organized by the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).



- ❖ Side event called “*Youth Engagement in Agribusiness*” during the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa’s (FARA) 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Johannesburg, South Africa on 25-28 November 2014.



- ❖ Youth Employment in Agricultural Programme (YEAP) launch on 16 December 2014, Abuja, Nigeria.



## Financial Information

This section details the financial resource mobilization activities and collaboration of IYA. For 2014, sources of financing / revenue were derived mainly from grants, production, and training.

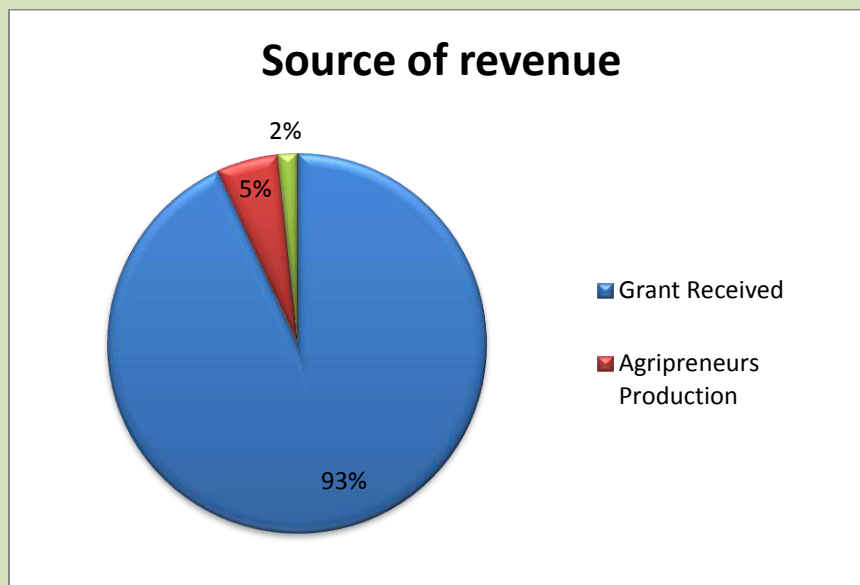


Figure 1. IYA source of financing/revenues.

### Revenue derived from grants

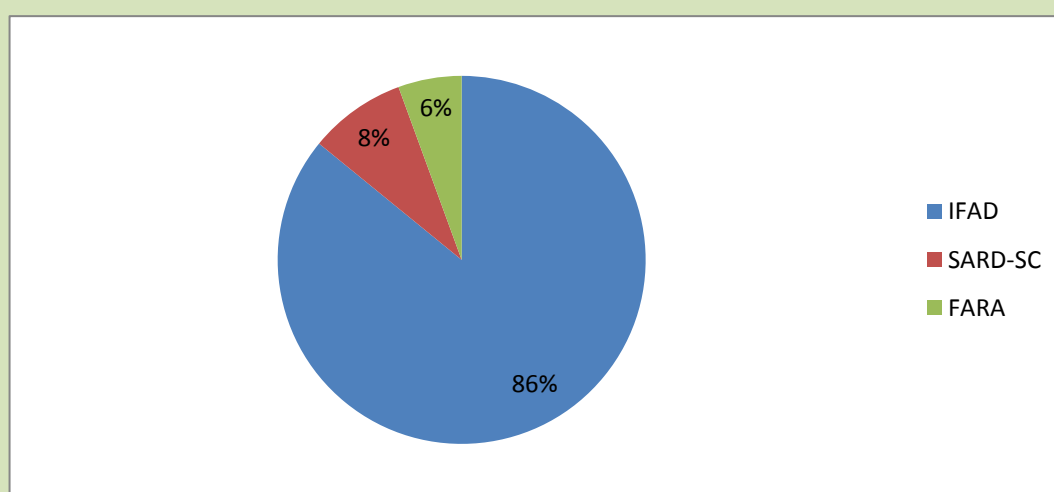
In 2014, IYA mobilized over US\$700,000 funds from three major donors: AfDB through SARD-SC, IFAD, and FARA.

IYA projected funding from grants for 2014 amounted to US\$500,000, with an increase of 40% or an additional US\$200,000.

**Table 1. Grants / funds received from donors**

| Grant title  | Donor   | US\$           |
|--|---------|----------------|
| Linkage to SARD-SC for Youth Engagement in Agribusiness    | SARD-SC | 61,218         |
| EC-IFAD Project Funds Allocation for Youth in Agribusiness | IFAD    | 283,002        |
| Innovation Platform for Ago Are                            | FARA    | 40,000         |
| HQCF Cassava project                                       | IFAD    | 147,000        |
| Cassava Addition   | IFAD    | 40,000         |
| Youth Agribusiness Development Initiative                  | IFAD    | 146,000        |
| <b>Total</b>   |         | <b>717,220</b> |

The figure below shows that 86% of the grants/funds came from IFAD, 8% through linkage to SARD-SC project, and 6% from FARA.



**Figure 2. Breakdown of grants.**

### Revenue Derived from Production and Training

IYA generated about **\$52,910** from activities ranging from the production and/or processing of cassava, maize, soybean, soy milk, plantain suckers, vegetables, and fish.

**Table 2. Revenues from production and training activities.**

| Commodity          | Amount (\$)   | Amount (Naira)   |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Maize seeds        | 10,975        | 1,756,000        |
| Soybean seeds      | 443           | 70,900           |
| Vegetables         | 4,163         | 666,056          |
| Cassava            | 2,316         | 370,562          |
| Banana suckers     | 1,458         | 233,305          |
| Soy milk           | 3,027         | 484,300          |
| Fish               | 18,028        | 2,884,400        |
| Training           | 12,500        | 2,000,000        |
| <b>Grand total</b> | <b>52,910</b> | <b>8,465,523</b> |

The figure below indicates that 34% of the revenues from IYA commodities in 2014 came from fish sales, 23% from training, 21% from maize seed sales, 8% from vegetables, 6% from soymilk, 4% from cassava, 3% from banana suckers, and 1% from soybean seeds.

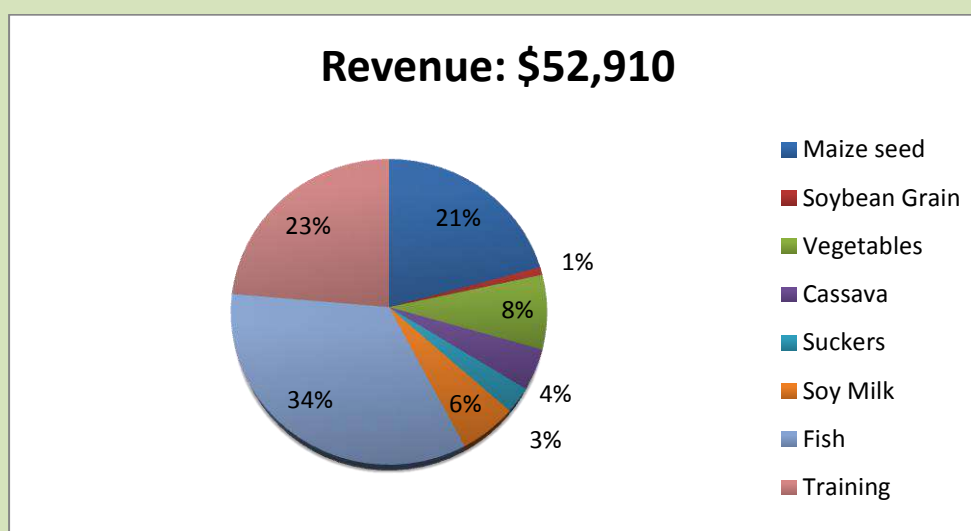


Figure 3. Revenues from IYA commodities

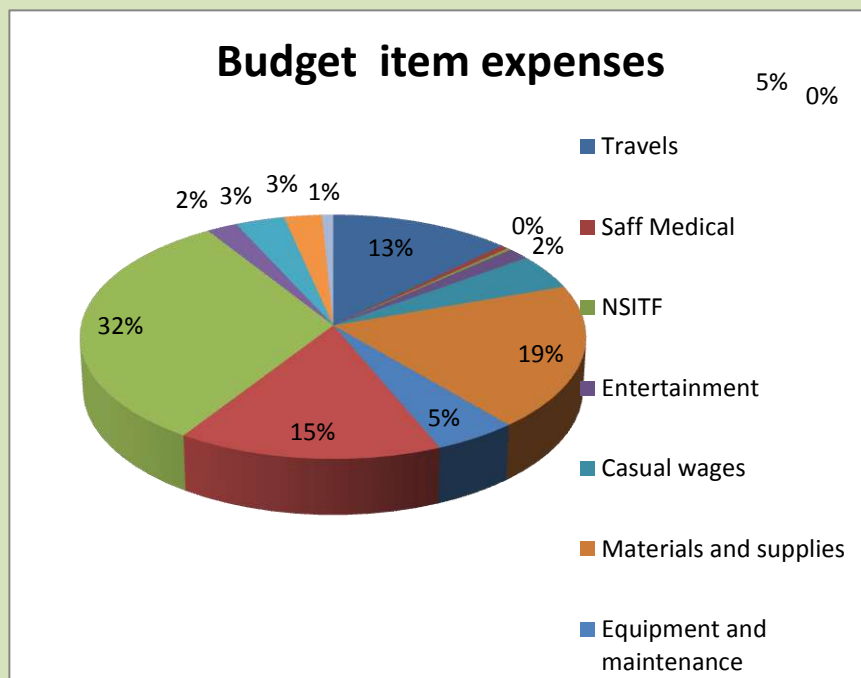
### IYA Expenditures

This section shows the amount of budget allocated and the actual amount spent in 2014. The total budget allotted to carry out IYA activities for the year was **\$837,786**; however, a total of **\$537,382** was spent.

Table 3. Budget item expenses

| Budget item   | US\$           |
|---|----------------|
| Travel  | 67,939         |
| Staff medical (medical charges)   | 2,803          |
| NSITF (insurance provision)   | 1,574          |
| Entertainment   | 8,270          |
| Casual wages  | 25,124         |
| Materials and supplies  | 103,040        |
| Equipment and maintenance   | 26,279         |
| Capital items (assets)  | 83,368         |
| Personnel and administration costs (stipends, running of office, vehicle maintenance, etc.)           | 170,967        |
| Communication (publication costs)   | 11,517         |
| Other costs   | 18,502         |
| Capacity building (internal and external training)  | 14,200         |
| Consultancy (payment for all consultants that oversaw the vegetable production and processing center) | 4,248          |
| <b>Grand total</b>  | <b>537,829</b> |





**Figure 4. Breakdown of expenses**

### **Lessons Learned and Way Forward**

Through numerous activities in 2014, IYA members have realized that with the right training and proper backstopping and tools, the sky will be the starting point for any youth who wants to embrace agriculture as a business and as a tool for unlocking jobs.

In the coming year IYA intends to take full advantage of various training for personal development (e.g., MBA degrees) and team building. In addition, IYA will be looking to expand its reach through advocacy both at national and continental levels with a view to finding more permanent and enduring solutions to the problems of poverty and unemployment among African youth, while creating a sustainable agribusiness enterprise.

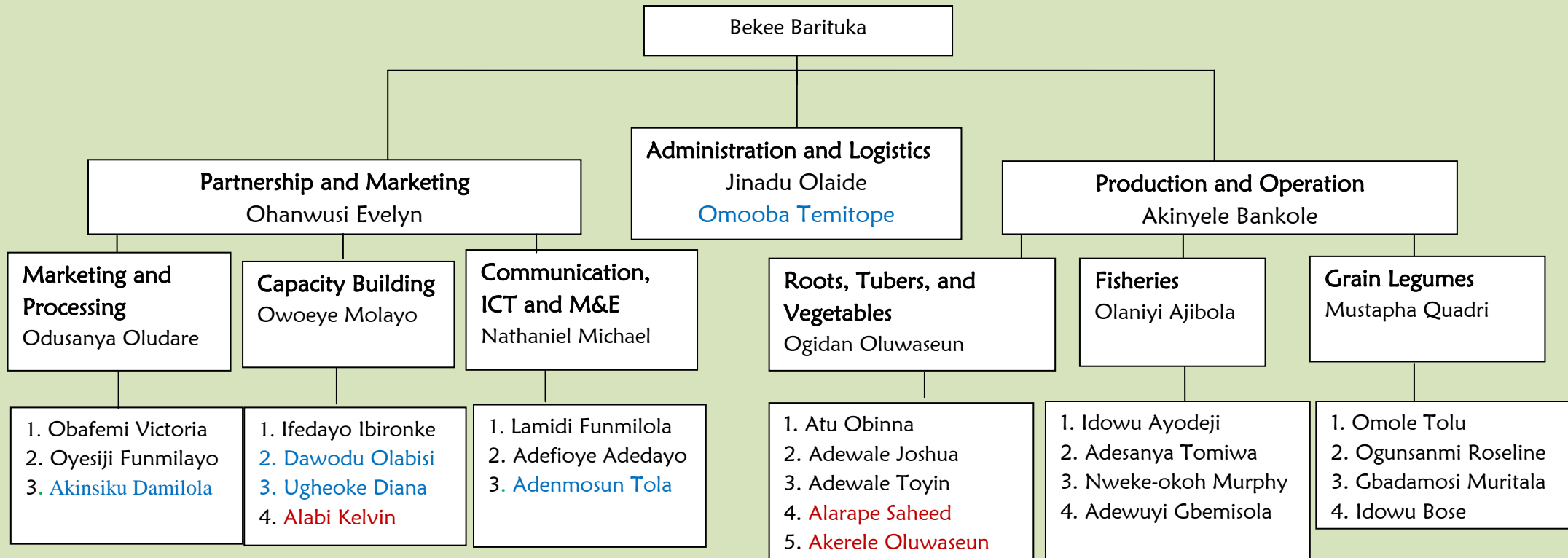
## IYA Organogram

- Old members
- 2014 Recruits (1st Batch)
- 2014 Recruits (2nd Batch)

**Steering Committee:** G. Tarawali, S. Oyinlola, K Roing de Nowina

**DG's Office:** N. Sanginga

**Assistant:** Victoria Lawal



## The IYA Team



**Barituka Bekee**  
Coordinator



**Ohanwusi Evelyn**  
Partnership and Marketing



**Akinyele Bankole**  
Production and Operation



**Olaniyi Ajibola**  
Fisheries



**Mustapha Quadri**  
Grain and Legumes



**Owoeye Molayo**  
Capacity Building



**Idowu Ayodeji**  
Fisheries



**Omole Tolu**  
Grain and Legumes



**Ibronke Ifedayo**  
Capacity Building



**Adesanya Omotomiwa**  
Fisheries



**Ogunsanmi Roseline**  
Grain and Legumes



**Dawodu Olabisi Mercy**  
Capacity Building



**Adewuyi Gbemisola**  
Fisheries



**Gbadamosi Muritala**  
Grain and Legumes



**Ugheoke Avoedoghia**  
Capacity Building



**Nweke-Onkon Murphy**  
Fisheries



**Idowu Bose**  
Grain and Legumes



**Alabi Oluwafunmilade**  
Capacity Building



**Jinadu Olaide**  
Administration and Logistics



**Omooba Temitope**  
Administration and Logistics



**Ogidan Oluseun**  
Roots, Tubers and Vegetables



**Odusanya Oludare**  
Marketing and Processing



**Nathaniel Michael**  
Communication, ICT and M&E



**Atu Obinna**  
Roots, Tubers and Vegetables



**Obafemi Victoria**  
Marketing and Processing



**Lamidi Funmilola**  
Communication, ICT and M&E



**Adewale Joshua**  
Roots, Tubers and Vegetables



**Oyesiji Funmilayo**  
Marketing and Processing



**Adefloye Adedayo**  
Communication, ICT and M&E



**Adewale Toyin**  
Roots, Tubers and Vegetables



**Akinsiku Oluwadamilola**  
Marketing and Processing



**Adenmosun Adetola**  
Communication, ICT and M&E



**Alarape Saheed**  
Roots, Tubers and Vegetables

## Other Highlights

### IYA @ 2



### FRIDAY WALK

To promote team spirit among the group and encourage a health-conscious culture, the IITA Youth Agripreneurs engage in a weekly fitness 5-km walk within the institute.



### Revisit of IFAD president, Dr Kanayo Nwanze



