

Strengthening Production and Increase Income of Smallholder Rice Farmers in Kogi State

A Matching Grant Fund Project of the Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI) and Ajifa Rice & Allied Agro Processing Co. Limited and Vancol CropCare Limited

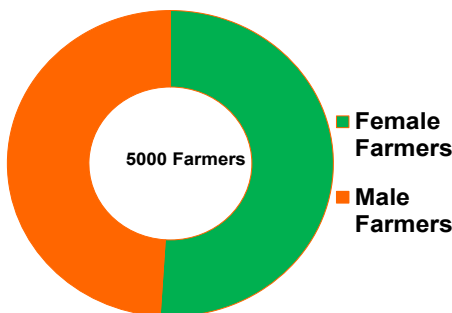


Goal

The goal of the project is to integrate 5000 rice farmers (51% female farmers) into sustainable and competitive business models that lead to increased paddy production as well as to improvements in quality. As a result, the income of the farmers is expected to double by the end of the 2-year project. This contributes significantly to the reduction of poverty of smallholder farmers in Kogi State, Nigeria.

Our Approach

In order to double the yield and income of the beneficiaries, support is given to the beneficiaries through training in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and provision of improved technical packages. The beneficiaries are set up into 167 Farmer Based Organizations (FBOs). By supporting contract farming arrangements between farmers and off takers, the project enables farmers to market their product.



Introduction of improved seed varieties to these farmers is adopted as a mechanism of increasing their yield/hectare, income, promote uniformity and as well as reduce prevailing practice of low yield mixed varieties naturally produced by the farmers.

The onsite GAP training is delivered by agriculture experts that have been trained to provide private extension services. The training is carried out on demonstration farms where farmers are educated and exposed to best production practices on land preparation, cultivation, harvesting and post-harvest handling. Farmers benefit from Farmer Business Schools to improve their farm management and entrepreneurial skills.

Tube well technology is another intervention area that is of great opportunity to the farmers as this enables them to double their income by producing paddy also during the dry season. This reduces farmers' dependence on rainfall for production.

Implementing Partners

Vancol CropCare Limited is the technical implementor. Vancol commenced commercial activities in 2006 as an agricultural pesticides input, seed and farm machines marketing company. It has achieved heritage of almost 20 years of combined human capital experiences in the crop protection industry inducted into the company. Vancol CropCare Limited in collaboration with Ajifa Rice supply seeds, agrochemicals & irrigation pumps, GAP manual development & training from existing materials and agricultural extension guides and bulletins to farmers under this project.



Photo: © GIZ/Matthew Olaide Adetunji

Contact

AJIFA Rice Mill
Amodu Achema
amoduachem@hotmail.com
+23480331106939

Published by

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Registered Offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany
Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI)
11b, Mousa Traore street, Asokoro
Abuja, Nigeria
www.giz.de
GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication

in cooperation with
On behalf of
Author (s)
Layout and Design
As at

Ajifa Rice & Allied Agro Processing Co. Limited
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Stefan Kachelriess-Matthess, Solomon Agamah, Yusuf Dollah Foad
Anna Thinius, Matthew Olaide Adetunji
September, 2015
www.cari-project.org