

Facilitating team

Two institutions - the Agricultural and Rural Management Training Institute (ARMTI), and the International Potato Center (CIP) - with solid theoretical and practical experience on sweetpotato production and utilization comprise the facilitating team. Additional expertise will be drawn from Helen Keller International (HKI) and national agricultural research centers in Nigeria to implement the course.

Certification

Participants who successfully complete the course will be awarded a certificate of participation.

Limited registration/fee

A maximum of 30 participants will be accepted to foster a conducive learning environment. This Training of Trainers (ToT) course seeks participants from organizations committed to incorporating nutritious crops into their programs.

The fee for this 10-day intensive course is US\$950 for international participants and NGN100,000 (US\$650) for Nigerian participants, and covers tuition, materials, travel (field trips), accommodation and meals. A limited number of scholarships are available.

Application

Interested persons are invited to send an application and motivation letter to the address below by 31st July 2013. Women are particularly encouraged to apply.

Contact persons

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Course Announcement



Reaching Agents of Change Training of Trainers Course

Everything you ever wanted
to know about sweetpotato

Ilorin, Nigeria **2013**
23rd September - 4th October



Background

The “Reaching Agents of Change (RAC): Catalyzing African Advocacy and Development Efforts to Achieve Broad Impact with Orange-fleshed Sweetpotato” project, is implemented by the International Potato Center (CIP) and Helen Keller International (HKI). Its aim is to increase investment in orange-fleshed sweetpotato (OFSP) to combat vitamin A deficiency among young children and women of reproductive age. RAC also seeks to build the capacity of public sector extension and non-governmental organizational personnel to effectively implement initiatives aimed at promoting the dissemination and appropriate use of vitamin A-rich OFSP.

As part of its goal to train senior extension personnel on the latest development in sweetpotato production and utilization in East and Central Africa, Southern Africa and West Africa, RAC announces a gender-sensitive training of trainers (ToT) course: *“Everything you ever wanted to know about sweetpotato.”* This course -- organized by CIP, HKI and ARMTI -- targets participants from West Africa, and in particular, Nigeria.



Course objective and content

The overall objective of this training is to build the capacity of national implementing agencies in the region to drive uptake of OFSP. At the end of the course, participants will understand:

- Key aspects of sweetpotato production, utilization and marketing
- Selection multiplying and preservation of clean sweetpotato planting materials, as well as pest and disease management
- Good nutrition and the importance of Vitamin A
- Gender roles in production, utilization and marketing
- Farmer clients' sweetpotato systems improvement, and
- Be able to deliver their own sweetpotato training course

Topics to be covered

The specific topics that will be taught include:

- Origin and importance of sweetpotato
- Sweetpotato varietal selection and characteristics
- Orange-fleshed sweetpotato and nutrition
- Sweetpotato seed systems
- Sweetpotato production and management
- Sweetpotato pest and disease management
- Harvesting and postharvest management
- Marketing and value addition
- Processing and utilization
- Gender and diversity aspects
- Monitoring of OFSP dissemination and uptake
- Facilitation skills and adult learning techniques

Target audience

This course is aimed at senior public health and agricultural extension officers, team leaders from NGOs, researchers, leaders of farmer organizations, personnel from training and education institutions, agribusiness (input, output, processing and credit) and other professionals who are in a position to influence practice or have the potential to do so in the short or medium term.

Training methodology

The training will be based on adult learning methodology combining lectures, case studies, discovery-based / experiential learning approaches, practical hands-on exercises, site visits, group work and plenary discussions. Participants will need to be active and involved as they bring different knowledge and experiences to the course. Participants will be expected to attend all courses, group work, discussions and hands-on exercises for the full length of the course. They will also be expected to develop their post-course action plans. The language of instruction will be English.

