

**REPORT OF TRAINING OF TRAINERS/FARMERS IN ORANGE  
FLESHED SWEET POTATO IN RIVERS STATE, NIGERIA ON 16<sup>TH</sup>  
MAY, 2017.**

**TRAINING TITLE: OFSP HEALTHY FOOD FOR ALL**

**PREAMBLE:** Skills are vital for an economy to grow and compete particularly in an era of economic integration and technological advancement. Skills needs are widespread in Nigeria not only in modern sector but also by the agricultural sector. This training is a direct means of providing workers / farmers with the skills relevant to evolving needs of the economy. Interestingly skill development is an important factor in the drive to enhance OFSP production; processing and utilization which will stimulate economy raise people out of poverty and also ensure food nutrition security.

The optimum goals for training others was the promotion, adoption, acceptance and consumption of pro-vitamin A rich (orange fleshed sweet potato) to ensure the realization of food and nutrition security towards improved health and wealth of the people.

**OBJECTIVES**

- Develop institutional and individual capacities to produce and consume OFSP.
- To promote and disseminate to stakeholders OFSP value chain.

- Build capacities of nutritionists, extension personnel of government and non-governmental organization in the production utilizations and processing of OFSP.
- To increase income for farmers and improve nutrition for adolescents, women of child bearing age and young children in both rural and urban areas.

## **TRAINING DATES**

I have concluded two trainings that were held on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of May, 2017.

First training was held at Agricultural Development Programme (ADP) training center, ADP premises, Rumuodomaya, Obio/Akpor Local Government Area, Port Harcourt, Rivers State on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, 2017.

## **TARGET GROUP**

The target audience was ADP Extension Agents and the N Agro staffs of ADP.

Male trained	51
Female trained	82
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>

## **SECOND TRAINING**

The second training was conducted on 11<sup>th</sup> of May, 2017 at Old Comprehensive Health Centre building, Ahoada Town, Ahoada East Local Government Area of Rivers State.

### **TARGET GROUP.**

The target groups were farmers and health workers. It is important to note that representative from two women organizations namely: **UMUBUIYE SOCIAL CLUB OF EKPEYE AND DIVINE DAUGHTERS OF DESTINY GROUP OF FRIENDS** participated in that training.

Male trained        2

Female trained    12

### **TOPIC COVERED**

- OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING
- IMPORTANCE OF OFSP
- OFSP AND NUTITION
- SWEETPOTATO PRODUCTION
- OFSP MARKETING / PROCESSING

## SUMMARY OF TRAINING

Date of training held	District	Ward/LGA	Target group	Male trained	Female trained	Total trained
3 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2017	Port Harcourt	Obio/Akpor LGA	ADP Extension Agent /N Agro staff	52	81	133
11 <sup>th</sup> May, 2017	Ahoada	Ahoada East LGA	Health workers / farmers	2	12	14
					<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>147</b>

## CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED DURING TRAINING

- Funding for refreshment of participants
- Hire of chair and halls as venue for training
- Training materials / projector, generator and fuel

## FUTURE SUPPORT REQUIRED FOR TRAINEES

- Funds for refreshment of participants
- Funds for training materials / projector / generator and fuel
- Fund for hire of halls/ chairs (venue of training)
- Banners / posters, OFSP branded T-Shirts.

## **DATE OF NEXT TRAINING**

The next exact training dates have not been fixed for the month of June, 2017, though negotiations are on. However proposed audience for the next round of training includes;

- All Farmers Association of Nigeria (ALFAN), Rivers State Chapter.
- Nutrition Society of Nigeria, Rivers State Chapter.
- School to Land Authority staff / agricultural students in training.
- Catholic Women Organization Nkpolu- Port Harcourt

## **ADOPTION OF OFSP**

It is heart warming to inform you that I distributed five planting OFSP vines per participants free of charge. Moreover, many of the participants purchased vines and have started planting both in Rivers State and Bayelsa State.

In conclusion, I sincerely appreciate and remain eternally grateful to Dr. Phorbe Olapeju (International Potato Centre) for her encouragement and support to be part of OFSP family. My special thanks also go to Dr. Jude Njoku (NRCRI Umudike) for his guidance. . I also express my appreciation to International Potato Centre and Building Nutritious Food Basket (BNFB) that sponsored my training at ARMTI Ilorin, Kwara State on everything you ever wanted to know about sweet potato between 3<sup>rd</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. At the end of the training, I pledged to cascade the training also promote OFSP as a food based approach to combating vitamin A and other micro-nutrient

deficiencies (hidden hunger) especially among children under five years of age and women of reproductive age. The optimum goals for training others was the promotion, adoption, acceptance and consumption of pro-vitamin A rich (orange fleshed sweet potato) to ensure the realization of food and nutrition security towards improved health and wealth of the people. Promotion of orange fleshed sweet potato (OFSP) through training of others in Rivers State in particular and Nigeria at large is a sure way of increasing awareness of the varieties to the farmers In all, to the glory of God Almighty for the training has been going on well, I am so encourage by the acceptance OFSP has had so far. I believe with assistance we shall do better in a short while.

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Attached are the photos of the training sessions.

**Training of ADP Extension Agents / N Agro Staffs in session.**

**Director Extension giving a welcome remarks during training.**





















# TRAINING SESSION AT AHOADA TOWN



## PARTICIPANTS TASTING OFSP



## QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION















PARTICIPANTS WITH OFSP VINES



PARTICIPANTS WITH OFSP VINES



