

**Report on Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) National Platform
Inception Meeting for the Roll out EOA for 2014 - 2018**

26 – 27th February, 2014



[By

The Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative Project, Nigeria

Association of Organic Agriculture Practitioners of Nigeria (NOAN)

**With funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
(SDC) through Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT), Kenya**

]

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Background

Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative in Africa was borne following the decision by the Africa Heads of State and Government [EX.CL/Dec. 621(XVII)]. The overall goal of the Action Plan is to mainstream ecological organic agriculture into national agricultural production systems by 2020. The initiative was piloted in the 2012 and executed in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia (East Africa), Nigeria (West Africa) and Zambia (Southern Africa) under the chairmanship of Africa Union Commission with funding from Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC). The initiative has six pillars namely: a) Research, Training and Extension, b) Information and Communication, c) Value Chain and Market Development, d) Networking and Partnership, e) Policy and Programme Development, f) Institutional Capacity Development. Association of Organic Agriculture Practitioners of Nigeria (formerly Nigerian Organic Agriculture Network) executed the initiative in Nigeria participating in the activities of four pillars (a – d).

Following the success and experience gained from the pilot phase, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) decided to fund the roll out of EOA initiative in eight African countries for five years (2014 – 2018). These countries comprises of four East African Countries (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia) and four West African Countries (Nigeria, Republic of Benin, Mali and Senegal). The initiative will be executed under four pillars namely: a) Research, Training and Extension, b) Information and Communication, c) Value Chain and Market Development, d) Supporting and Cementing.

Goal and Functions of National EOA platforms

The overall goal of National EOA platforms will be to oversee implementation of EOA projects and their activities at country level. National Platforms will be a forum that convenes, facilitates, advises, and monitors progress of implementation of EOA initiative in general and Organic Agriculture in particular. Generally, it will be an open forum of multi-stakeholders ready and interested in supporting EOA development in any country in Africa

Objectives of the National Platforms

On the basis of the above mandate, three main objectives will be undertaken by the national forums:

1. Catalyze integration of ecological organic agriculture (EOA) in government policies, strategies, plans and programmes.
2. Link and coordinate EOA activities at country level including sharing of information and experiences among stakeholders.
3. Create awareness and increase the critical mass and voice of proponents of EOA.

The national platforms will promote specific strategic actions such as organizing policy formulation competitions among high school or undergraduate students, awarding farmers for outstanding performance or recognizing politicians for their pro-EOA political work. With experience, the national platforms may as well formulate benchmarks for “good” policy work in the various agro sectors. This will enhance implementation of the EOA initiative with strong integration and synergy across thematic areas and sectors. The platforms will be expected to become visible and recognized actors ensuring professional quality in management of the EOA projects.

This report is an account of activities carried out during a two day National Platform Inception Meeting for the Roll out EOA for 2014 - 2018 organized in Nigeria by NOAN under the auspices of SDC through BvAT.

1.0 Introduction

The Nigerian team in the implementation of the EOA Initiative of Africa held its National Platform Inception Meeting for the Roll out EOA for 2014 - 2018 between the 26th and 27th of February, 2014 at the Emmanuel Alayande Resource Centre, Samonda, Ibadan, Nigeria (see Appendix I for programme of event). The meeting brought together multi-stakeholders ready and interested in supporting EOA development in Nigeria. The meeting was organized by NOAN.

A total of 87 participants attended the first day and 44 participants attended the day 2 meeting. Participants were drawn from across all sectors in the country including the government, the media, farmer's organizations, private sectors, civil society organizations, policy research and development institution and researchers from the university and institutes. Biovision Africa Trust, Kenya which is the coordinating organization for the initiative in Africa was represented by Mr. David Mwenda.

1.1 Objectives of the Meeting

1. Create awareness of EOA Initiative among a larger multi-stakeholder audience and introduce the project of mainstreaming ecological organic agriculture (EOA) into national policies, strategies and plans 2014-2018
2. Form Country Platform/Forum for EOA promotion
3. Establish National EOA Steering Committee (NESC)
4. Select an overall Country Lead Organization (CLO) and Project implementing partners (PIPs) for the technical centres of excellence – a) Research, Training & Extension; b) Information and Communication; and c) Value Chain and Market Development.

2.1 DAY ONE

SECTION ONE – Opening Ceremony

2.1.1 Welcome Address by NOAN President – Prof. G. O. Adeoye

On behalf of NOAN, Prof. Adeoye welcomed all stakeholders the second leg of NOAN participation in EOA project. The preliminary project ended in 2013 with excellent performance by NOAN. He appreciated every one present, in charting a new course in Organic Agriculture. He welcomed the representative of Honourable Minister of Agriculture and the Kenyan delegation from Bio-Vision Africa Trust and all stakeholders from Nigeria including our Organic Farmers.

Prof Adeoye highlighted that every year all nations in the world used to visit Jerusalem to worship, this particular year this people were in an upper room 120 of them, we can call them the revolutionists, there is a revolution going on and it is the organic revolution, 90% of arable land is being polluted, soils polluted, water polluted. We are in a serious and precarious situation in the entire world and we are eating foods that are not wholesome, chemicals have taken over. Health is wealth, fairness and care. He congratulated our farmers present and added that we ended the first phase of EOA and Nigeria did very well.

Thirdly the third technical workshop coming up at Wesley University of Science and Technology, Ondo State, Nigeria. The organic agriculture chariot is moving and one other beautiful thing is that the farmers groups have been visited, the PGS Certification process has been done and some farmers will be awarded certificates.

He finally encouraged all stakeholders that we all have a role to play in Nigeria because we must be relevant to the Transformation Agenda for food security. It is important to note that Nigeria is hosting the 3rd African Conference on Organic Agriculture in February 2015 and our 3rd Technical Workshop in Organic Agriculture comes up in April.

Prof Adeoye finally asked all Stakeholders, Can Africa feed itself? Can we eat wholesome food and feed our Children, it is in our hands. His earnest desire is that all hands are on deck to run a successful year.

Goodwill Messages

2.1.2 Mr. Isa Adamu - Representative of the Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources, FMA&RD, Abuja, Nigeria

Mr Isa Adamu kindly took permission to step down from the high table to deliver the goodwill message; He is proud and will say anywhere that He is proud to serve under the present minister of agriculture, after the meeting in Tanzania, Nairobi etc he believes Organic is the way to go.

Agriculture, should be treated as a business, to stimulate its growth. It should be a private driven activity. When he submitted his report, and he was asked what the meaning of EOA is? By the time he (the Minister) went through the pamphlet, he summarized it in a one page, "Everything organic keeps on moving".

We are here to partner and collaborate with the private sectors, CSO'S NGO's. What is the number of farmers owned by fed government, the answer is nil, because agriculture is owned by the state and then the farmers. The state virtually contributed 75 percent in the Growth Enhancement Scheme (GES). The Federal Government is there to support and facilitate. He would encourage all the stakeholders present at this meeting to be involved in the execution of this initiative; I assure you that the ministry will also be involved. The following are some updates on the activities of the FMA&RD:

- i. Mainstreaming of Organic fertilizers into GES programme of the government
- ii. Establishment of Organic Fertilizer Producers and Suppliers of Nigeria
- iii. Establishment of the Department of Extension in the ministry
- iv. Development of value chain for all crops.

Sustainability is a key word. The issue of sustainability with changing government therefore becomes important. Consequently, to keep the process going is through Government formulation of good policies. The minister has therefore directed the inclusion organic fertilizer in our national fertilizer policy, which is due for review. So having a policy is having some kind of immunity to Government approved activities. So legally we are going to have that policy in the national fertilizer policy.

He stated lastly that the ministry is working on the 3rd Africa Organic Agriculture conference with series of planning meetings and communication with different stakeholders.

2.1.3 Alhaji Luqman Oladapo - Oyo State Agricultural Development Programme (OYSADEP)

Alhaji Oladapo greeted all stakeholders on Behalf of the Personal Secretary, Oyo State Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. He added that OYSADEP has been collaborating with NOAN different capacities. An event was organized last year and NOAN was part of it, farmers have also been organized into groups and the farmers have also visited the organic farm at University of Ibadan.

Right now OYSDPEP is currently operating in two locations, at Alabata for the organic vegetable production and we have also approached NOAN to provide us organic products, like insecticides, farmers are gradually being introduced into organic agriculture, the second site is at Okewo at Kajola

local government, Oyo State. Finally, 5 hectares' of land has been cleared for the men and women farmers.

2.1.4 Presentation – EOA's Contribution to Food Security in Africa by Dr. O. O. AdeOluwa

One of the questions that people raise often is can Organic Agriculture tackle food insecurity? We are looking at how Organic Agriculture can contribute to food security; the issue of food security in Africa needs a dynamic approach. Organic farming may be the solution to problem of food insecurity in Africa. Sometime in October 2010, Ministers of Agriculture convened in Malawi, they proposed that organic farming should come to the poor; by this Dr AdeOluwa addressed the problem of food insecurity in Africa.

The Organic Agriculture, the principle of health is quite vital, the health of the farmer, producer, consumer and the environment. In ecology how do we maintain our environment in a way that it is sustainable, the nation is unfair to the farmers, government and consumers are unfair to them, are we fair to them? There is fairness to all in organic agriculture.

Realization of food security in Africa requires dynamic sustainable approaches. Organic farming seems a more reliable option for Africans, in 2010 African Heads of States' Decision EX.CL/Dec.621 (XVII) on Organic Farming in 2010 and requested the African Union Commission and its New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) to:

- Provide guidance for an African Union (AU)-led coalition of international partners on the establishment of an African organic farming platform.
- Provide guidance in the development of sustainable organic farming systems and improve seed quality;

There was an inception workshop in Thika, Kenya, from May 1-3, 2011, attended by strategic stakeholders of Organic Agriculture in Africa. The meeting was funded by Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC) to prepare a roadmap and an initiative to implement the African Union Decision.

Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.

Goal, Vision and Mission of the EOA Initiative

Goal: The overall goal of the Action Plan is to mainstream ecological agriculture into national agricultural production systems by 2020.

Vision: Vibrant Ecological Organic Systems for Enhanced Food Security and Sustainable Development in Africa.

Mission: To scale up ecologically sound strategies and practices among diversified stakeholders through institutional capacity development, scientific innovations, market participation, public policies and programs, outreach and communication, efficient, coordination, networking and partnerships.

Pillars of the EOA Initiative Pillars of the EOA Initiative

1. Research, training and extension: This driver will conduct demand- driven participatory, interdisciplinary, multi-cultural research that informs stakeholder training and offers innovative knowledge and skills to the community.
2. Information and communication: This will develop information and communication strategies to sensitize the stakeholders and the general public on the value and practices of EOA.
3. Value chain and market development: This will increase the range of products and trade in ecological organic products from West Africa at domestic, Africa and export markets.
4. Support and Cementing

Food and Food Security Food and Food Security

Food security is a condition that "exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life", - *1996 Social and cultural dimension of food.* □ *World Food Summit*

We can analyze that the Agricultural development dynamics in Sub Saharan Africa is that the conventional wisdom is redoubling efforts to modernize agriculture with attendant increasing cost. However, majority (75%) of food produced in Sub Saharan Africa is produced by subsistent farmers that are resource poor. Most African farmers live in rural areas, there is an increase in urbanization leading to reducing number of farmers in rural areas and subsistent farmers need low-cost and readily-available technologies and practices to increase local food production.

Challenges of Organic Farming in Africa Challenges of Organic Farming in Africa

- General ignorance and misconception regarding organic agriculture (not cultural farming)
- Little Africa-based scientific evidences to promote organic agriculture
- Little or no policy to safeguard organic agriculture activities – agrochemicals and Poor technical assistance from government and development partners □ GMOs
- Poor funding for organic agriculture projects unlike the conventional ones
- Sourcing of appropriate inputs (seeds, fertilizers, feeds, drugs, mechanization, etc.) for organic agriculture
- Progressive erosion of indigenous seeds and breeds by exotic ones
- Need for more quality control and assurance mechanisms
- Poor private sector involvement
- Poor local marketing; fairness to farmers
- Low information exchange among national organic networks and projects

EOA Principles providing for Food Security in Opportunities for Food Security in Africa

Principle of Ecology Principle of Ecology

Organic agriculture is close to the African lifestyle; majority being farmers have both physical and economic access to 'food'. Diverse agro-ecologies in Africa to produce different produce all year round: crops, livestock, fisheries, wild etc.

EOA encourages diversified agricultural production that ensures effective soil productivity management and local food security.

Challenges of Organic Farming in Challenges of Organic Farming in Nigeria

1. General ignorance and misconception regarding organic agriculture (not cultural farming)
2. Little Africa-based scientific evidences to promote organic agriculture
3. Little or no policy to safeguard organic agriculture activities – agrochemicals and GMOs
4. Poor technical assistance from government and development partners
5. Poor funding for organic agriculture projects, unlike the conventional ones sourcing of appropriate inputs (seeds, fertilizers, feeds, drugs, mechanization, etc.) for organic agriculture
6. Progressive erosion of indigenous seeds and breeds- local certification
7. Need to intensify on quality control and assurance mechanisms - (PGS or Third party)
8. Poor private sector involvement
9. Poor local marketing; fairness to farmers
10. Low information exchange among national organic networks and projects

Addressing Challenges of EOA in contributing to food security in Africa food security in Africa

Ever winning football teams' secrete 'Defend and attack!' 'Defense' by systematic management and documentation of available success in organic agriculture (production and processing) to showcase productivity of the system.

'Attack' by exploring opportunities to address challenges that have not been surmounted through progressive systematic research and advocacy.

Conclusion

There is no doubt that organic agriculture can greatly contribute to food security and improvement in livelihood of all involved in the value chain. However, several opportunities derivable from organic farming need to be explored through proper documentation, research and advocacy activities.

2.1.5 Launching of the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Label and Presentation of PGS Certificates to Farmers

The label was unveiled by Mr. Gbadamosi R. Oyewole (Chairman, PGS Certification Committee) and the presentation of certificates to farmer groups was carried out by Prof. G.O Adeoye and Prof. (Mrs.) N.T. Meludu.

Farmer Groups were presented their certificates are:

1. Ajibode Organic Farmers Group
2. Ago-Owu Organic Farmers Group
3. Abayomi Farms Estate Limited
4. Elekuru Organic Farmers Group
5. UI Organic Garden

2.1.6 Briefing on 3rd Organic Agriculture National Technical Workshop

Mr. E. Oyekanmi of Wesley College of Technology Ondo State (WUSTO) spoke about the 3rd National Technical Workshop coming up from the 7th - 11th of April 2014. The workshop is to be co-hosted by Federal College of Agriculture, Akure (FECA).

Theme of the Technical Workshop

“Mainstreaming Organic Agriculture into the Agricultural Transformation Agenda of Nigeria?”

Subthemes addressing Cocoa and vegetable production

- Soil management practices
- Crop production techniques
- Recent panacea for pest control in organic agriculture
- Animal production linkages to crop production
- Processing and marketing techniques
- Extension and indigenous knowledge
- Policy restructuring for organic agricultural development.

Core Sub-workshops:

- a. Organic cocoa business development: from seed to export at WUSTO, Ondo town.
- b. Organic vegetables production and market development at The Fed. College of Agriculture, Akure.
- c. Basic Knowledge on Organic Agriculture at Wusto, Ondo town.

Conference Venue: Sir Olabanji Akingbule Lecture Theatre, Wesley University of Science and Technology, Ondo State. Nigeria.

Conference Date: April 6th – 11th April, 2014.

2.1.7 Briefing on the 3rd Africa Organic Conference by Mr. Isa Adamu

Mr. Isa Adamu of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Abuja announced that series of meetings has been taking place for successful hosting of the event in Abuja come February, 2015.

Theme: *“Achieving Social and Economic Development through Ecological and Organic Agricultural Alternatives”*

Date: 1st of February till the 5th of February 2015.

Venue: Undecided

Aim of the Conference:

- Showcase the potential of organic agriculture in the context of poverty alleviation, climate change adaptation, food security and trade.
- Facilitate the sharing of knowledge, information, experiences and skills among key stakeholders in the organic sector.
- Explore partnerships and cooperation opportunities for the implementation of the African Ecological Organic Agriculture Action Plan, which aims to mainstream “Ecological Organic Agriculture” into national and continental agricultural production systems in Africa by 2020.
- Encourage the uptake of organic alternatives through south–south collaboration, especially in the sharing of experiences.

Conference will address:

- Exchanging and sharing experiences of agricultural research pursuits and practical applications;
- Presentation of scientific evidence on capability of organic agriculture to contribute to food security, income generation, employment, systems resilience, among others;
- Appraising progress of the Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative underlying the Decision of the African Heads of States and Governments on organic farming;
- Interrogating how organic agriculture can be optimized to significantly contribute to the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture and Development Programme (CAADP) agenda; and
- Exhibition of organic produce and products to stimulate regional trade.

Proposed Events

- Day 1: Field visits and side meetings
- Day 2: Press conference, exhibition, pre-meetings and opening ceremony
- Day 3: Presentations and exhibition
- Day 4: Presentations, exhibition and official closing

Organizers:

- African Union Commission
- African Organic Network (AfrONet)
- Association of Organic Agriculture Network of Nigeria (NOAN)
- International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM)
- International Society for Organic Agriculture Research (ISO FAR)
- Others

Conference Location:

- Main Conference – Abuja

- Field visits – different locations in Nigeria

SECTION TWO – Technical Section

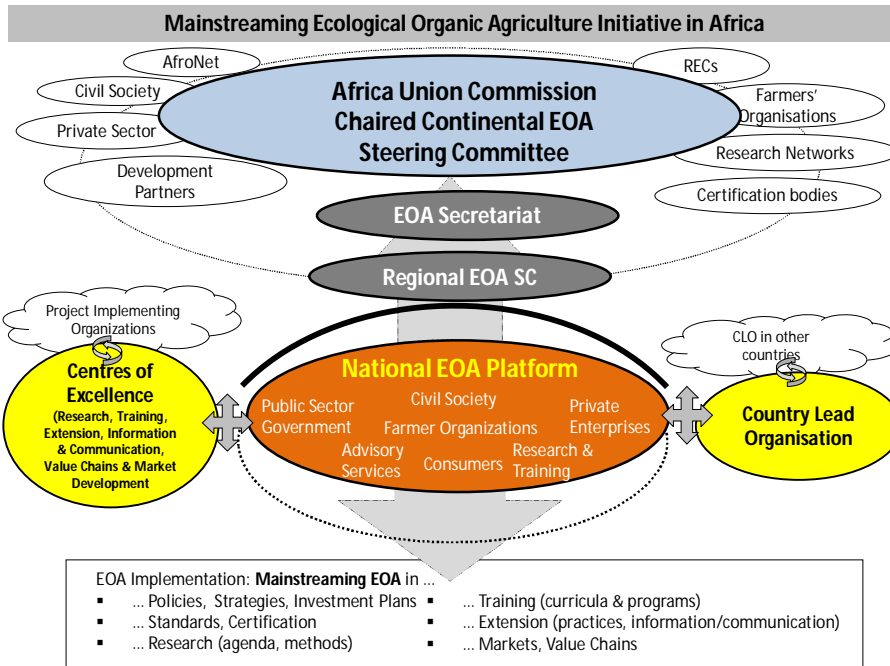
2.1.8 Roles of BvAT in SDC – EOA and Guidance in Adoption/Selection of CLO and PIPs Presentation by Mr. David Mwenda

Action Plan for Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) Initiative

- Overall Goal: To mainstream EOA into national agricultural production systems, policies, and practices by 2025 in order to improve agricultural productivity, food security, access to markets and sustainable development in Africa.
- Vision: Vibrant Ecological Organic Systems for Enhanced Food Security and Sustainable Development in Africa.
- Mission: To promote ecologically sound strategies and practices among diverse stakeholders in production, processing, and marketing through strategic actions and policy making to alleviate poverty, guarantee adequate and healthy food security, improve livelihoods and safeguard the environment.

Pilot and Rolling Out of EOA in Africa

- i. Pilot phase in 2012 supported by Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC/SIDA) in 6 countries (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Zambia and Nigeria).
- ii. Baseline studies conducted in Mali, Senegal and Benin with SDC Support (with SDC support).
- iii. SSNC currently supporting roll-out in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Ethiopia (2013 – 2015).
- iv. SDC will be supporting EOA in 8 countries (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia) in Eastern Africa and Nigeria, Senegal, Mali and Benin in West Africa (2014 – 2018).



Role of Biovision Africa Trust

- Management and coordination of the EOA Initiative and the SDC support towards the initiative will be undertaken by the Biovision Africa Trust in Kenya.
- As the lead agency of the initiative, BvAT acts on behalf of and is accountable to the Continental EOA Steering Committee and to AfroNet.
- BvAT will closely work with the organizations and structures put in place to support implementation of EOA projects on the continent – the Continental EOA Steering Committee, Regional EOA Steering Committees, National EOA Platforms and the country lead organizations (CLOs).
- BvAT will facilitate the establishment of National Platforms and the selection of Country Lead Organizations (CLOs) & Pillar/project implementing partners (PIPs) and will be responsible for management, accountability and general oversight of all partner activities.
- BvAT will receive reports from CLOs for submission to SDC and other partners

Mandate of the National EOA Platforms

- The mandate of the National EOA Platforms will include:
- Streamlining EOA's operations at country level.
- Rallying of partners/actors in EOA at country and continental level.
- Facilitating the sharing of achievements, lessons and experiences.
- Supporting/lobbying of policy change, investment plans, etc.
- Shaping the national research and development EOA agenda.
- Facilitating selection of and providing support to Country Lead Organizations (CLOs) and project implementing partners.

Objectives of the National Platforms

- On the basis of the above mandate, three main objectives will be undertaken by the national forums:
- Catalyze integration of ecological organic agriculture (EOA) in government policies, strategies, plans and programmes.
- Link and coordinate EOA activities at country level including sharing of information and experiences among stakeholders.

Create awareness and increase the critical mass and voice of proponents of EOA

Membership of the National Platforms

- The membership of the country National Platforms will include:
- Agriculture and other relevant sector ministries
- Research and Educational Institutions

- Private sector
- Civil Society Organizations
- Farmer Organizations
- Policy research and development Institutions (e.g. KIPPRA, TEGEMEO for Kenya)
- Certification and regulatory agencies
- Development Partners which will be open to who may wish to join

National EOA Steering Committee (NESC)

Stakeholders should democratically elect/nominate a National EOA Steering Committee (NESC) to provide leadership and overall supervision of EOA at the country level. Representation in the NESC will be based on institutions rather than individuals.

The NESC will be responsible for:

- Providing leadership, guidance and overall supervision of EOA at the country level
- Exploring ways of integrating EOA within national plans, strategies and investment plans
- Developing national structures for implementing the Initiative
- Developing a country's national platform's long term goals and strategies
- Reviewing national progress reports on a regular basis
- Initiating high-level coordination of EOA activities
- Establishing and implementing partnerships and resource mobilization for EOA at national level.
- Creating linkages of country level EOA activities with regional and continental activities

Representation in the National EOA Steering Committee

The proposed NESC would include the following:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary

Other Representations from:

- Research and Training
- Private Sector
- Government (e.g. MOA)
- Civil Society Organization
- Farmers Organization

- Development Partners who may wish to join

The Country Lead Organizations (CLOs)

The CLOs, with the endorsement and support of the National Platforms will be responsible for the followings tasks:

- Coordinate project activity implementation at country level
- Disburse funds to project implementing partners as per the proposal and signed work agreements and contracts
- Supervise and monitor implementation of project activities
- Support building of networks and experience sharing across pillars
- Catalyze and support the process of forming National Platforms
- Provide secretariat facilities for the NPSC
- Report to NPs, AfrONet and development partners
- Report to BvAT (operational/Narrative and financial reports)
- Provide all financial support documents as explained in the contracts

Project/Pillar Implementing Partners (PIP)

Country activities will be undertaken by reputable partners selected and approved by the stakeholders through the national platforms.

The PIPS, with the endorsement and support of the National Platforms will be responsible for the followings tasks:

- Implement in partnership with other partners assigned project activities in the country.
- Support building of networks and experience sharing with other stakeholders.
- Report progress and results of project implementation to NPs and development partners

Monitoring & Evaluation

- The five-year plan will be implemented in an **annual cycle** of planning, implementing, monitoring and reporting by the National Platforms.
- In developing the M&E, particular attention will be given to participatory monitoring and training of the field practitioners on how to use results to improve service delivery and encourage learning by the beneficiaries.
- A **database** will be developed and maintained of a) ecological-based technologies and practices, b) ‘best-fit’ methodologies and approaches (processes) from which African implementing countries can take lessons, and c) EOA actors interested to share their expertise.

- **Country annual plans and budgets** be prepared by CLOs and PIPs and submitted to the EOA Project Manager in BvAT for approval by the Continental EOA Steering Committee (Chaired by the African Union Commission)

Objectives of National Platforms as Supported by CLOs and PIPs

Objective 1: To integrate EOA in government policies, strategies, plans and programmes

- Undertake policy gap analysis on the current country policies and evaluate the extent to which they support EOA development.
- Align EOA initiative with national policies, based on the recommendations of the policy gap analysis.
- Work closely with County Agriculture Directors or equivalent to integrate EOA in county policies, strategies and investment plans.

Objective 2: To link and coordinate EOA activities at country level including sharing of information and experiences among stakeholders.

- Link EOA with other relevant ongoing activities
- Undertake programmatic information sharing through:
 - Developing a national platform website
 - Establishing national clusters around thematic areas such as research, training, production, trade, among others
 - Organize special forums for the clusters to meet, share information and success stories and plan for pertinent issues affecting the cluster.
- Undertake programme monitoring, evaluation and reporting
- Organize regular programme review meetings for the National Platform Steering Committee and implementing partners
- Organize stakeholders' forums to review and decide on the way forward on EOA initiative
- Follow up on implementation of the way forward ideas from stakeholders meeting in consultation with project coordinators.

Objective 3: To create awareness and increase the critical mass and voice of proponents of EOA

- Recruit stakeholders to join the country national platform.
- Establish county/district/zonal contact points. These are organizations at county/district/zonal level who will be responsible for coordinating activities at the unit level. They will be useful links to disseminate EOA information at country level down to the grass root and provide feedback from these levels to the national level.
- Appoint a regional platform representative who will be the link between national and regional steering committees and regularly report to the national level and to the regional level.

Monitoring & Evaluation

- The five-year plan will be implemented in an **annual cycle** of planning, implementing, monitoring and reporting by the National Platforms.
- In developing the M&E, particular attention will be given to participatory monitoring and training of the field practitioners on how to use results to improve service delivery and encourage learning by the beneficiaries.
- A **database** will be developed and maintained of a) ecological-based technologies and practices, b) ‘best-fit’ methodologies and approaches (processes) from which African implementing countries can take lessons, and c) EOA actors interested to share their expertise.
- **Country annual plans and budgets** be prepared by CLOs and PIPs and submitted to the EOA Project Manager in BvAT for approval by the Continental EOA Steering Committee (Chaired by the African Union Commission)

2.1.9 Adoption/Selection of CLO

NOAN was nominated and adopted by unanimous vote to be the Country Lead Organisation for EOA Initiative in Nigeria.

2.2 DAY TWO

2.2.1 Selection of National Steering Committee and PIPs for 2014 Activities by Prof. V.I.O Olowe

The following individuals were nominated by their organization and adopted as the National EOA Steering Committee during the EOA Inception meeting in Nigeria.

S/N	Name	Position/Organization
1.	Dr. O. O. AdeOluwa	Chairman
2.	Mr. Isa Adamu	Government (Federal)
3.	Alhaji. M. O. Oladapo	Government (State)
4.	Chief M. O. Salimonu	Farmers Organization
5.	Mr. M. A. Bakare	Farmers Organization
6.	Mr. Gbadamosi R. Oyewole	NOAN
7.	Prof. (Mrs.) N. T. Meludu	HEFCI/Civil Society Organization
8.	Mrs. O. Odukoya	Dasyooh Ltd./Private Sector
9.	Dr. (Mrs.) A. Adejumo	UI/Research and Training
10.	NOAN	

2.2.2 Selection of Project/Pillar Implementation Partners (PIPs)

A recap of David presentation as a reminder was addressed again. The PIP would have to qualify by fulfilling the below criteria

- Basic qualification in relevant areas/disciplines
- Track record of participation in similar project
- Readily Available
- ICT compliant

PILLAR 1 – RESEARCH, TRAINING AND EXTENSION

Role: To conduct participatory interdisciplinary multi-cultural research that informs stakeholder training and offers appropriate knowledge and skills and innovative solutions to the community's challenges.

Suggested PIPs are:

1. IFS, UAM
2. OAPTIN, FUNAAB
3. U.I
4. EXT. OYSADEP
5. LAUTECH
6. WUSTO
7. CRIN
8. OSUN STATE UNIVERSITY.

UI was selected to be the PIP for this pillar

PILLAR 2 – INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

Role: To develop information and communication strategies to sensitive the stakeholders and the general public on the value and practices of EOA.

Suggested PIPs are:

1. AGRO. NIG MAGAZINE
2. HEALTHY FOODS FOR CONSUMERS INITIATIVE
3. ACILD, ABUJA
4. TRENDLINE AGRO DEV. OPTIONS LTD
5. NAERLS
6. EXT ARM OF OYSADEP
7. DIAMOND RADIO
8. ACTION HEALTH INCORP.
9. OTHERS

Healthy Foods for Consumers Initiative was selected as PIP for this pillar.

PILLAR 3 – VALUE CHAIN AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Role: To increase trade in organic products from Africa on domestic, regional and export markets.

1. FOUNDATION FOR STUDENTS MISSION
2. U.I
3. FCA, MOOR PLANTATION
4. FCA, AKURE
5. FUNAAB
6. GIDDY-THODA ORGANICS
7. CHERISH FARM
8. TECOWI
9. RID-OYSADEP
10. AVILEX BIO-TECH
11. COCOA BIODIVERSITY

- 12. NOAN
- 13. OTHERS

NOAN was selected as the PIP for this pillar.

2.2.3 Planning of Pillar Activities: Syndicate meetings

PILLAR 1: RESEARCH, TRAINING AND EXTENSION

A	ACTIVITIES	TIMELINE	EXECUTORS
1.1.1	Questionnaire administration	May	University of Ibadan & Forest Research Institute of Nigeria
1.1.2	Identification of knowledge gaps	June	Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta & College of Animal P& Health Ibadan
1.1.3	Regular update of data	July - October	Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria & Ladoke Akintola University of Technology Ogbomoso
1.1.4	Validation of research finding in EOA practices	June	Osun State University & NIHORT
1.1.5	Documentation of local knowledge to the dev. of EOA	June	NACRAB & College of Agric, Ibadan
1.1.6	Institution demand driven research based on competitive approach	July	FUNAAB
B			
1.2.1	Identify training needs for EOA actors BY GENDER.....	April	OYO ADP/IAR&T/ TRENDLINE
1.2.2	Periodic review of curricular and training materials	April – Oct	OAPTIN & FUNAAB

1.2.3	Sensitize stakeholders about the recommended EOA curricular & Training material	June	Wesley University of Science and Tech Ondo & University of Agric Markurdi
1.2.4	Support Development of EOA Training Programmes & material based on training need assessment & curricular review	October	University of Ibadan & Fed Min of A&RD
1.2.5	Support short-courses training for targeted actors in EOA value chain to build capacity on Identified gaps	August	FCE Akure & Diamond Radio
C			
1.3.1	Conduct Monitoring & Evaluation	October	NOAN
1.3.2	Preparation of annual and progress report	October	NOAN

PILLAR 2: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

A	Activities	Timeline	Executing Organization
2.1.1	Conduct gap analysis in information and communication strategies beyond the coverage of the pilot phase	April - May	HEFCI
2.1.2	Develop sensitization and communication strategies	April	Agro Contact Nig & Trendline Dev.
2.1.3	Prepare and avail information and communication materials on EOA	April	Trendline Dev. /Agro Press/Radio Nigeria/Diamond FM/Farmers Group
2.1.4	Sensitization of stakeholders and actors in the EOA value chains through workshops, media, websites, etc.)	April	Cocoa Biodiversity/Earthly Produce
B			
2.2.1	Establish support communication infrastructure (Farmers resource centres, information hubs, websites, databases and other data/knowledge repositories)	May	
2.2.2	Train farmers and extension agents in use of innovative communication strategies	May	OYSADEP/Agro Press/NOAN

2.2.3	Prepare and avail policy briefs and guidelines on ICT applications in EOA to relevant policy makers and other stakeholders	June	HEFCI/Trendline Dev.
2.2.4	Create linkages and partnerships among actor organisations involved in transfer and dissemination of EOA practices.	July	NISER/Federal Ministry of Agriculture/Agricultural Policy Research Network
C			
2.3.1	Conduct Monitoring and Evaluation	NOAN	May – November
2.3.2	Prepare annual and progress reports	NOAN	June and November

PILLAR 3: VALUE CHAIN AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT

A	Activities	Timeline	Executing Organization
3.1.1	Develop and update national database of actors (producers, processors, traders, consumer, regulators) in the EOA value chains	May – July	NOAN
3.1.2	Create linkages between the national databases and the other databases at regional and global levels - AUC, FIBL,IFOAM	July – September	NOAN
3.1.3	Develop, adapt and update tools for collecting market information and data	May	FCA-Ibadan, & NISER
3.1.4	Train stakeholders on the use of the tools for collecting market information and data	July – September	FCA Ibadan, NOAN
3.1.5	Support the stakeholders to collect, analyse and disseminate market information and data	May – June	FCA-Ibadan
3.1.6	Support establishment of at least 3 organic farmers markets in every participating county	July – October	DASYOOH Ltd, FCA Akure
3.1.7	Support organization and participation of stakeholders in the national, regional and international trade fairs	May – October	NOAN
3.1.8	Conduct consumer awareness through media, promotional materials, mobile phones	May – October	Trendline Dev. /Agro Press/Radio Nigeria/Diamond FM/Farmers Group
B			
3.2.1	Conduct value chain mapping and analysis for EOA products	August-September	TECOBICS, Cocoa Biodiversity

3.2.2	Conduct training in Value Chain Development and Marketing for at least 10 Master Trainers (MTs) taking into account gender and youths	May	Nigeria Go Organic
3.2.3	Support MTs conduct national TOTs trainings for extension agents, lead farmers and service providers on value chain development	May	Nigeria Go Organic,
3.2.4	Support national TOTs to conduct farmer trainings on value chain development	May – June	Cocoa Biodiversity
3.2.5	Facilitate exchange visits for actors to cases of best practices	July – September	DASYOOH Ltd., NAQS,
3.2.6	Train stakeholders in entrepreneurship and development of business plans	July – September	U.I. Organic Garden, NAPEP, OYSADEP
3.2.7	Support strategic business linkages with green investors	October	NOAN & NAPEP
3.2.8	Document and share best practices in the value chains of EOA commodities	October	Nigeria Go Organic Project
3.2.9	Conduct M&E and share lessons on value chain development of EOA product	May – October	Nigeria Go Organic,
C			
3.3.1	Train local organic inspectors	May	PGS Certification Committee, NAQS
3.3.2	Train and Facilitate at least 16 producer associations nationally in Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) for market access	July – September	Nigeria Go Organic, PGS Certification Committee
3.3.3	Initiate implementation of third party certification approach	July – September	Nigeria Go Organic, PGS Certification Committee
D			
3.4.1	Conduct Monitoring and Evaluation	May – November	NOAN
3.4.2	Prepare annual and progress reports	June and November	NOAN

Cementing Pillar (to be led by the National EOA Coordinator through NOAN)

S/n	Activities	Period
Output 4.1.	Fully functional National Platforms with Steering Committees established and	

	strengthened	
4.1.1	Develop the TOR and Rules of Procedures for the National Platforms and Steering Committees facilitated by the CLOs	April - May
4.1.2	Organize at least one meeting for bringing together country partners to share experiences and lessons 0.1	June - October
4.1.3	Sensitize various actors and stakeholders in the country about the value of EOA in development	July - September
4.3.4	Undertake policy gap analysis on the current policies as related to EOA development.	May to July
4.1.5	Lobby for inclusion of EOA into national policy making processes, strategies and investment plans.	May - September
4.1.6	Develop long term goals and strategies for the National Platform facilitated by the Steering Committee and CLOs	May – September
4.1.7	Develop directory and database of members of the national platforms and development partners	May - October
4.1.8	Support participation in regional fora	July – October
4.1.9	Improve NOAN’s website for visibility of the initiative and information sharing	May - October
4.1.10	Prepare annual workplan and budget through participatory processes	July – October
Output 4.2.	Capacities of Country Lead Organizations (CLOs) and Pillar Implementing Partners (PIPs) to perform their functions strengthened	April - May
4.2.1	CLOs prepare contractual agreements and disburse funds to PIPs	April - May
4.2.2	Strengthen capacity of CLOs and PIPs in project coordination and implementation	April - May
4.2.3	Facilitate development of criteria for selection of PIPs	April - May
4.2.4	CLOs convene at least two national platform meetings a year for PIPs and other stakeholders	May - November
4.2.5	CLOs and PIPs conduct project supervision, support, monitoring, evaluation and reporting to executing agencies and other stakeholders	May - November
4.2.6	Prepare annual workplan and budget through participatory processes	July – October
Output 4.3 .	Capacities of Executing Agency to undertake mandate in managing the project strengthened	May – July
4.3.1.	Strengthen capacity in project coordination and implementation	May – July
4.3.2.	Support at least two national platform meetings a year through CLOs	May to October

4.3.3.	Project supervision, support, monitoring, evaluation and reporting to stakeholders and development partners	May – November
4.3.4.	Prepare annual workplan and budget through participatory processes	July - November

3.0 OUTPUTS AND CONCLUSIONS

The following outputs were achieved during the National Platform Inception Meeting for the Roll out EOA for 2014 - 2018 in Nigeria that took place from 26 – 27th February, 2014:

- a) The workshop provided a platform for bringing stakeholders involved in EOA in Nigeria to consolidate on the pilot phase.
- b) The meeting further strengthen networking potentials among stakeholders thereby creating awareness of EOA Initiative among a larger multi-stakeholder audience.
- c) The workshop provided a platform for selection and adoption of CLO, PIPs and EOA National Steering Committee.
- d) The work plan for the execution of different activities in each pillar was developed.
- e) The meeting was covered by print and electronic media nationwide.

Conclusions

It could be concluded that the National Platform Inception Meeting for the Roll out EOA for 2014 - 2018 in Nigeria was successful. This is envisaged to translate into smooth and successful execution of the Initiative in Nigeria. The event brought together diverse stakeholders from both private and governmental sectors. The meeting presented information on how stakeholders could participate in the implementation of EOA in Nigeria.

Appendix I

Programme of Event

TIME	PROGRAMME	REMARKS
DAY ONE 26TH FEBRUARY, 2014		
Opening Ceremony: Moderator – Mr. GBADAMOSI R. Oyewole		
8:00 - 9:00	Registration	87 Participants
9:00 - 9:05	Opening Prayer	
9:05 - 9:15	Welcome Address by NOAN President	Prof. G. O. Adeoye
9:15 - 9:20	Goodwill Message by the Representative of the Federal Ministry of Agric. & Rural Development	Mr. Isa Adamu
9:20 - 9:25	Other Goodwill Messages	
9:25 - 9:55	EOA's Contribution to Food Security in Africa	Dr. O. O. AdeOluwa
9:55 - 10:05	Launching of Participatory Guarantee System's (PGS) Label and Presentation of PGS Certificates to Farmers	Mr. R.O. Gbadamosi
10:05 - 10:10	Briefing on 3 rd National Technical Workshop	Mr. E. Oyekanmi
10:10 - 10:25	3 rd Africa Organic Conference	Rep. of FMA&RD
10:25- 10:40	Feed Backs	Mrs. Odukoya
10:40 - 10:45	Vote of Thanks	Prof. J. A. Adedirian
10:45 - 11:00	Group Photograph and Tea Break	Ms. K. O. Olanrewaju
11:00 - 12:00	Press Conference / Sales of Certified Organic Produce / PGS Certification Committee's Meeting	
Technical Section (For participants invited with letters only)		
12:00 - 12:40	Progress Report of EOA Pilot Phase in Nigeria and the Introduction of 2014 – 2018 Roll out Phase	Dr. O. O. AdeOluwa
12:40 - 13:00	Roles of BvAT in SDC – EOA and Guidance in Adoption / Selection of CLO and PIPs	Mr. David Mwenda
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 - 15:00	Adoption / Selection of CLO and PIPs and their Roles	Prof. G. O.

		Adeoye
15:00 - 15:30	Selection of National EOA Steering Committee and 2014 Activities Planning Members	Prof. V.I.O. Olowe
15:30 - 16:00	A.O.B.	Prof. V. Togun
16:00	Closing Prayer	
DAY TWO 27th February, 2014 (For planning members only)		
8:00 - 9:00	Arrival of Participants/ Registration	43 Participants
9:00 - 9:20	Recap of Day 1 Events	Mrs. Dorothy Olokodana
9:20 - 9:30	Preparation for Planning of 2014 EOA Activities in Nigeria	Dr. O. O. AdeOluwa
9:30 - 10:15	Planning of Pillar Activities: Syndicate	Syndicate Discussions
10:15 - 10:30	Tea Break	
10:30 - 11:30	Planning of Pillar Activities: Syndicate	Syndicate Discussions
11:30 - 13:30	Presentation of Syndicate Reports and Further Discussions	Rapporteurs
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break	
14:30 - 15:00	Wrap-up	Dr. O. O. AdeOluwa
15:00 - 15:05	Vote of Thanks/Closing prayer	Prof. G. O. Adeoye

Appendix II

Attendance of Participants – Day One (26th February, 2014)

S/N	NAMES	INSTITUTION/ORGANIZATION
1	E.O Ayanfeoluwa	Fed. College of Agric., Moor Plantation, Ibadan
2	Prof. G. O. Adeoye	NOAN
3	F. Kesington	Earthly Produce Ltd.
4	I. Adamu	FMA&RD
5	Dr. O. I. Lawal	FUNAAB-NOAN
6	Mr. David Mwenda	Biovision Kenya
7	R.O. Awodoyin	CPEB, UI
8	Dr. O. O. Adeoluwa	NOAN
9	P. Olanrewaju	Foundation for Student Mission
10	O.A Ajilore	CPEB, UI
11	I. A. Aina	CPEB, UI
12	Prof. N. T. Meludu	Healthy Food for Consumer Initiative
13	Prof. A.E. Adekoya	UI
14	T. Oyewale	Agric Extension, UI
15	F. Ibirogba	Nigerian Tribune
16	C. C. Abur	NISER, Ibadan
17	W. B. Adelowo	NISER, Ibadan
18	Alhaji L. O. Oladapo	Oyo State ADP
19	Dr. A. Olowoake	Kwasu, Ilorin
20	C. O. Eche	University Of Agriculture, Makurdi
21	O. Akande	NAPEP Federal Sec., Ibadan
22	O. Alonge	UI Organic Garden

23	O. Popoola	Ago-Owu OFG
24	B. O. Babalola	NAPEP Federal Sec., Ibadan
25	F. Gbenla	FUNAAB
26	O.B. Adewoyin	FECA
27	Y. Funsho-Oke	Nigerian Tribune
28	D. Abayomi	Abayomi Farm Estate Ltd.
29	Dr. (Mrs) F.A Olowokere	FUNAAB/OAPTIN
30	Dr. O. S. Sakuriyawo	FUNAAN/ OAPTIN
31	O. Abisola 08120742333	Radio Nigeria
32	A. Orbunde	UAM Benue
33	O. Biuworwi	UI
34	A. J. Ajayi	Federal College Of Agriculture
35	B. Adewusi	Diamond FM (UI Radio)
36	J. Olanihun	Abayomi Farm Estate Ltd.
37	P. Akpuh	The Sun Newspaper
38	P.A.S Soremi	FUNAAB
39	Dr. (Mrs.) O. P. Adejoh	FRIN, Ibadan
40	Chief M. O. Salimonu	Ajibode OFG
41	L. Adeniran	Akinyele OFG
42	U. Tairu	Akinyele OFG
43	Prof. V. I. O. Olowe	OAPTIN, FUNAAB
44	O. Alamu	NACGRAB
45	O.E. Olajire	NACGRAB
46	T.O. Ajiboye	NACGRAB
47	A.A. Alowonle	NACGRAB

48	R. Makinde	Amuludun FM
49	I. Ademola	Amuludun FM
50	G. Ayankunle	Premier FM
51	Prof. V. A. Togun	LAUTECH
52	O. O. Paul	FCAH&PT, Ibadan
53	R. R. Ipinmoroti	CRIN, Ibadan
54	S. A. Adejumo	UI
55	T. M. Okanlawon	HEFCI
56	O. Odukoya	Dasyooh Farms Ltd
57	S. A. Akanni	Akinyele L.G., Moniya
58	O. Taiwo	Agric. Media & Support Initiative (AMSIN) Ibadan
59	O.A. Babarinde	Business League
60	T. B. Akinrinola	UI
61	I. K. Adedokun	NAERLS, Ibadan
62	C. O. Oladimeji	NAERLS, Ibadan
63	O. J. Oshibote	NAERLS, Ibadan
64	E. T. Omisope	NAERLS, Ibadan
65	O. A. Ojo	NAERLS, Ibadan
66	E.O Oyekanmi	WUSTO, Ondo
67	O.O. Awosusi	NAQS, Ibadan
68	M.F Oyewole	UI
69	M.O Ipinmoroti	Osun State University
70	O.O. Olufunmi	NIHORT, Ibadan
71	K. O. Salimonu	Ajibode OFG
72	O. Ojo	Young Professional for Nigeria Development

73	O. R. Agboaye	Peace Foundation Ministry
74	O. S. Aboaye	Peace Foundation Ministry
75	M. Richard-Mark	Agro Nigeria
76	A. Ochnma	Avilex/PriviBiotec
77	S. Adenekan	Agro Nigeria
78	L. Akpobaro	Agro Nigeria
79	O. Adeoluwa	NIHORT/HEFCI
80	Dr. V.O. Aduramigbe	IAR&T
81	M. D. C. Ohia	UI
82	O.O Alamu	NIHORT, Ibadan
83	F. Alabi	UI
84	Prof. A Togun	TECOBIC
85	O. K. Olanrewaju	NOAN
86	R. O. Gbadamosi	NOAN
87	Mrs. D. Olokodana	NOAN

Appendix III

Attendance of Participants – Day Two (27th February, 2014)

S/N	Name	Institution/Organisation
1	Prof. N. T. Meludu	Healthy Foods for Consumer Initiative
2	O. M. Okanlawon	Healthy Foods for Consumer Initiative
3	E.O Ayanfeoluwa	Fed. College of Agric., Moor Plantation, Ibadan
4	Dr. W. Ipinmoroti	Osun State University
5	O. Odukoya	Dasyooh Ltd
6	M.A. Bakare	Ago Owu OFG
7	E.O Oyekanmi	WUSTO, Ondo State
8	Chief M.O. Salimonu	Ajibode OFG
9	P. Olanrewaju	Foundation for Student Mission
10	A. J. Ajayi	Federal College of Agric., Akure
11	Alhaji M. O. Oladapo	Oyo State ADP
12	O. Popoola	Ago Owu OFG
13	F. Kesington	Earthly Produce Ltd
14	R.R. Ipinmoroti	CRIN, Ibadan
15	Prof. V.I.O. Olowe	FUNAAB/OAPTIN
16	O.O. Awosusi	NAQS, Ibadan
17	C.M. Adeoye	NOAN
18	O.O. Adeoluwa	NOAN
19	A.F. Bankole	Oyo State College of Agric., Igboora
20	Mr. I. Adamu	FMA&RD
21	Prof. V.A. Togun	LAUTECH
22	Prof. A. Togun	TECOBIC
23	Dr. O.I. Lawal	FUNAAB, NOAN,AOPTIN
24	O.B. Adewoyin	Federal College of Agric Akure

25	O. Taiwo	Trendline Agro Dev. Options Ltd.
26	A. Babarinde	Trendline Agro Dev. Options Ltd.
27	Mr. David Mwenda	Biovision
28	M. F. Oyewole	Agric. Extension & Rural Dev., UI
29	N. Ogbu	Federal College of Agric., Akure
30	Prof. G.O Adeoye	NOAN
31	L. Adeniran	Akinyele OFG
32	U. Tairu	Akinyele OFG
33	O. Adeoluwa	NIHORT/HEFCI
34	Y. T. Oyelami	Ajibode OFG
35	G. Odey	Elekuru OFG
36	Dr. A.A. Olowoake	KWASU, Ilorin
37	O. K. Olanrewaju	NOAN
38	A. Orbunde	Institute of Food Security, UNIAGRIC Makurdi
39	S. Adenekan	Agro Nigeria
40	L. Akpobaro	Agro Nigeria
41	Dr. S.A Adejumo	University of Ibadan
42	Mrs. D. Olokodana	NOAN, Cocoa Biodiversity
43	R.O. Gbadamosi	NOAN

Appendix IV

PICTURE EXTRACTS OF THE EVENT



Picture 1: Mr. Isah Adamu (Representative of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development) delivering a Goodwill message



Picture 2: Some dignitaries at the high table



Picture 3: Presentation of PGS Certificate to farmers



Picture 4: Some participants at the event



Figure 5: Participants of Pillar 1 Syndicate meeting



Picture 6: Some participants during the Syndicate meeting of Pillar 2



Figure 7: Pillar 3 syndicate meeting