



The 2021 project progress review and 2022 project closure planning workshop was hosted by IITA-Ibadan and took place between 14-17 December 2021. Seventeen Project partners' members (IITA, ABUAD, AfricaRice and University of Abomey-Calavi) came together during this period to review 2021 project target results obtained, to setup modalities for 2021/2022 project completion reporting and to have common knowledge of the 2022 project winding-up budget workplan/ activities and implementation arrangement.

#### 2020 Progress Review and 2021 Workplan Workshop Key Objectives

1. Review of project activities conducted, and results obtained in 2020 against the action plan
2. Complete a draft of 2020 Project Annual and Technical Report, and Financial Report
3. Finalize 2021 work plan and implementation arrangement
4. Agree on coordinated work plan for all components and activities for year 2021
5. Operations budgets and procurement plans for 2021
6. Agree on timely 2021 mid-term Progress and Technical Report, and Financial and Audit Reports
7. Agree on timely progress report on Midterm knowledge management achievements

#### IITA Project Activities in 2021

Yemi Adunoye, the Project Coordinator in IITA gave a brief outline of project activities by IITA in 2021. She reported on training components in IITA. She informed the meeting that their manuals were upgraded and that consultants were recruited for training on life skills. She stated that training on ICT was included in all the modules and that all trainees were placed in appropriate skill acquisition centers for industrial attachment. She added that youths were trained in production, value addition, life skills, personal interaction and negotiation in the marketplace, selling as well as business administration.

#### ABUAD Project Activities in 2021

Prof Amos Onasanya, the Project Manager reported that about 85% of applications in ABUAD were for fisheries (both production and value addition), which made

ABUAD trained more youths on fishery. Other ABUAD mandate modules were conducted in the fourth batch of the training. He said manuals were produced in both English and French for fishery, moringa, mango, and equipment fabrication, thereby making it a total of eight manuals produced for the training in Nigeria and Republic of Benin. The PM further stated that training on ICT was also included in all the manuals. He said technical partners from the Benin Republic were employed in translating the manuals from English to French as it would be more accurate than using language software. The PM further stated that each manual encompasses training in both fish production and fish value addition so that youths can benefit from both, thereby becoming both producers and processors.

#### AfricaRice Project Activities in 2021

Dr.Nwilene Francis gave general overview of AfricaRice activities in 2021 and stated that AfricaRice trained 18 youths in Nigeria were trained. He said they were trained in rice seed production and value addition and youths were also taken through technical and entrepreneurial training. He added that trained youths showed keen interest in both rice seed (upland and lowland) production and value addition. The youths were encouraged to stay together after the training and were advised to synergize for optimum profit in their respective business enterprises. nial future collaborators and leaders.



Cross session of participants at the workshop