

Nigeria and the Republic of Benin trained youths in agribusiness received cash and equipment grants from ABUAD, IITA, AfricaRice funded by IFAD

At the end of year one (2019) project activity, 351 youths were trained across all commodities by ABUAD, IITA, AND AFRICARICE. A total of 321 youths (40.1% female & 59.9% male) qualified, and received a grant of \$500 each to commence their business. With the grant, they are expected to exercise their newly acquired knowledge, skills, and competencies and



Grant equipment for fish production and fish value addition

and the platform will be accessible anywhere in the world as long as there is an internet connection. The project team will identify off-takers for the commodities on which youths were trained, and information about the identified off-takers will be provided on the platform, which will help the trainees to connect with prospective off-takers for their products. Information on the variety and quantity of products to be produced for existing markets will also be made available on the platform. Also, an online mentorship platform is being developed for the trainees. The platform is to create a community of mentors for the trainees. The trainees will be able to communicate with the mentors via text and pictures on the platform and can set times for meetings.



Photo showing trained youth receiving his equipment grant

be involved in the community events and processes, from and around the new business centers. The 321 grant beneficiaries received Grant Awards Certificates and were offered employment by giving them both equipment and cash grants to begin their agribusinesses in their respective rural areas. Thus, a total of USD 160,500 has been invested in form of grants to create employment for 321 youths to begin their agribusinesses in their respective rural areas. The project Grant Awards Certificates were produced both in French and English versions for trained youths from Benin Republic and Nigeria, respectively.

Monitoring of Grants

The team will develop a web-based marketing platform that is still in the development stage. All trainees will be required to register on the platform,



Photo showing trainees with their equipment grants