

Quarter 4 (2020) Project Performance Reporting

Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation

Project Name: Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT)

Project Code: 2100155036067

Compact: Orange-Fleshed Sweetpotato

Reporting period: October– December 2020

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADP	Agricultural Development Program
AUC-DREA	African Union Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture
CDTO	Capacity Development and Technology Outreach
CIP	International Potato Center
DVM	Decentralized vine multiplier
FARA	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
FCAPT	Federal College of Agricultural Produce Technology
FMARD	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
HH	Households
IIAM	Instituto de Investigação Agrária de Moçambique
IITA	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
KALRO	Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Institute
MoALF	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries
NRCRI	National Root Crops Research Institute
OFSP	Orange-fleshed sweetpotato
PM	Program manager
PMU	Project management unit
TAAT	Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation
ToT	Training of trainers

A – REPORT SUMMARY AND PROPOSED ACTIONS

A.1 – Project data

Compact/Unit	Orange-fleshed Sweetpotato (OFSP)		
Reporting Period	October–December 2020		
Countries Covered	Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Uganda		
Responsible Project Staff	<i>Joyce Maru, Program Coordinator (Sweetpotato)</i> <i>Sarma Mallubhotla, Consultant (CIP-TAAT OFSP Compact)</i> <i>Paul Demo, Regional Director for Africa (SSA)</i> <i>Simon Heck, Program Director (Sweetpotato)</i> <i>Nancy Ajima, Contracts and Grants Manager</i> <i>Jemimah Njenga-Kimata, Project Management Officer</i>		
Commodities and Enablers			
Project Development Objective	The project executes a bold plan to achieve rapid agricultural transformation across Africa by raising agricultural productivity to eliminate extreme poverty, end hunger and malnutrition, turn Africa into a net food exporter, and position Africa at the top of agricultural value chains where it has a comparative advantage.		
Project Components	A. Creation of an enabling environment for technology adoption B. Regional Technology Delivery Infrastructure C. Deployment of Appropriate Technology D. Program Management		
Expected date for Progress Report submission	Actual date for Progress Report submission		
Current closing date	Current disbursement deadline		
	31 January 2021		
Cumulative Funds Received to date (\$)	Cumulative Funds Utilized as per the latest financial report (\$)	Estimated date of next replenishment request and amount (\$)	Disbursed to date (%)
775,000	533,154.56	1,055,063 31 January 2021	42
Category	Total approved amount (\$)	Disbursed to date (\$)	Disbursed to date (%)
Goods	27,500	0	0
Services	90,874	5,874	6
Personnel	581,275	348,122	60
Recurrent/Operating	1,130,414	179,159	16
TOTAL	1,830,063	533,155	29

A.2 – Executive summary on project implementation during the reporting period (max half-page)

In Quarter 4 (Q4) of 2020, all the pending approvals, no-objection transactions, and clarifications relating to work plans, procurement plans, and partner subgrant agreements (SGAs) were approved by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)–TAAT project management unit (PMU). The TAAT coordinator has been recruited and joined the International Potato Center (CIP) on 1 December 2020 while the recruitment for the technology transfer officer position was almost complete. The following partner SGAs were fully executed:

- SGA between CIP and the National Root Crops Research Institute (NRCRI), Nigeria
- SGA between CIP and the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Institute (KALRO), Kenya
- SGA between CIP and the Instituto de Investigação Agrária de Moçambique (IIAM)

The OFSP Compact implemented some activities in Q4, mainly on accelerating multiplication and dissemination of new and existing OFSP varieties through a combination of public and private multipliers, delivering seed through public and development partners as well as commercial channels. The use of existing partners' system and networks allowed the compact to implement activities and take advantage of the cropping seasons in the implementing countries (i.e., Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Uganda), especially when movements to implementation sites during the COVID-19 pandemic were restricted. Farmer field days, demand creation, and awareness activities were implemented, including the use of digital platforms (WhatsApp, SMS) to train and communicate information to beneficiaries. COVID-19 crises also presented an opportunity to accelerate the shift to digital approaches and tools to reach more beneficiaries cost-effectively. The project has drawn on a range of digital innovations, tools, and approaches to reach farming households (HH) and beneficiaries (e.g., use of digital/ICT platforms/SMS, use of eLearning, e-videos, virtual learning interactions) as well as use of training of trainer (ToT) approaches to cascade learning.

The compact continues to leverage ongoing CIP sweetpotato program activities through existing CIP projects and other enabler TAAT compacts. These include the Capacity Development and Technology Outreach (CDTO) compact led by the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) to develop TAAT OFSP technology outreach material on sweet potato plant material conservation through sand, storage, and sprouting method (commonly referred to as Triple S technology). The OFSP Compact participated in the CDTO seminar series on “Enhancing Commercialization of Africa’s Agricultural Research Products—Orange-fleshed Sweet Potato Value Chain & Water Management Enabler Compact.” The seminar attracted an online audience of more than 500 participants and an engaging online discussion on commercialization of OFSP. A brief/promotional outreach material was also developed and published.

<https://library.farafrica.org/technologies/>

B – PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORTING

B.1 – Progress toward Project Development Objective (max 2 pages)

Component #1: Creation of an enabling environment for technology adoption

In Kenya CIP engaged with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MoALF), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Food Program, and other partners in the preparation for World Food Day, which took place on 16 October with the theme of “Grow, Nourish and Sustain Together.” CIP participated in the TV panel discussion under the theme of the event aired live through two national channels: KTN TV and KTN farmers TV. An exhibition booth was set up to showcase OFSP technologies as well as digital participation through social media blogs/posts.



CIP–Uganda OFSP–TAAT organized advocacy activities covering 14 government-level interactions with the top district officials in 10 districts. In Q4 media was effectively used by the TAAT project to train people on OFSP agronomy and nutritional value. Farmers were encouraged to save vines as most of the country is beginning to experience the dry spell. Spot radio messages were used for promotion and awareness creation, and were aired in the local languages. In addition, a one-day strategic meeting was organized with the assistant commissioner of food and nutrition security, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, and the project coordinator for the Uganda Multisectoral Food Security and Nutrition Project to identify synergies.

In Nigeria a paper presented by CIP’s country representative during an OFSP workshop organized by the **Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD)** participated in the SeedConnect Digital Series 2020—an annual event organized by the **National Agricultural Seed Council**. He also participated in the annual **Nutritious Food Fair** organized by HarvestPlus.

Component #2: Regional Technology Delivery Infrastructure



Farmers being trained on how to take care of an orange sweet potato garden



Farmers harvesting orange sweet potatoes from their garden

To strengthen and build a viable OFSP seed system to enable technology uptake, the project continued to accelerate multiplication and dissemination of new and existing OFSP varieties through a combination of public and private multipliers, delivering seed through public and development partners as well as commercial channels. The use of existing partners' system and networks allowed the compact to implement activities and take advantage of the cropping seasons in the implementing countries (i.e., Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Uganda), especially when the movements to implementation sites during the COVID-19 pandemic were restricted. Farmer field days, demand creation, and awareness-related activities were implemented, including the use of radio and television, digital platforms such as WhatsApp, and SMS, to train and communicate information to beneficiaries. COVID-19 crises also presented an opportunity to accelerate the shift to digital

approaches and tools to reach more beneficiaries cost-effectively. The project has drawn on a range of digital innovations, tools, and approaches to reach farming HH and beneficiaries (e.g., use of digital/ICT platforms/SMS, use of eLearning, e-videos, and virtual learning interactions) as well as use of ToT approaches to cascade learning. A total of 1,200,000 vine cuttings were distributed to various beneficiaries in Uganda, and decentralized vine multipliers (DVMs) were trained and supported to multiply and market more than 20 million vine cuttings in Uganda.

TAAT activities effectively leveraged the ongoing CIP sweetpotato program through existing CIP projects in the target countries. The CIP-TAAT team in Nigeria successfully implemented several field activities in November and December 2020 covering five states (presented below).

Courtesy visit of the managing director and his board of directors, Nasarawa Agricultural Development Program, in Lafia, State

The CIP team visited the Nasarawa State Agricultural Development Program (ADP) office in Lafia as a courtesy call to the managing director and members of the board of directors. The project coordinator made a presentation to the ADP team on the TAAT project that is expected to commence immediately in Nasarawa State. The project coordinator further outlined the objectives and required approaches to consider in order to ensure successful implementation. The managing director and the team gave their full support and were willing to partner with CIP to make the TAAT project a success.

Courtesy visits to the offices of the ADPs in Nasarawa and Imo States

The CIP–Nigeria team visited the offices of the program managers (PMs) of the ADPs in both Nasarawa and Imo States. The visits were to introduce the TAAT-OFSP intervention to them, create awareness of OFSP value chain, and seek their collaboration at state level. The team informed them about the scheduled activities for OFSP in the state. The PMs were excited about the project. They pledged their full support and delegated their staff to join the team to the selected locations where we planned to implement our activities.

1. Sensitization of OFSP outgrowers in Nasarawa

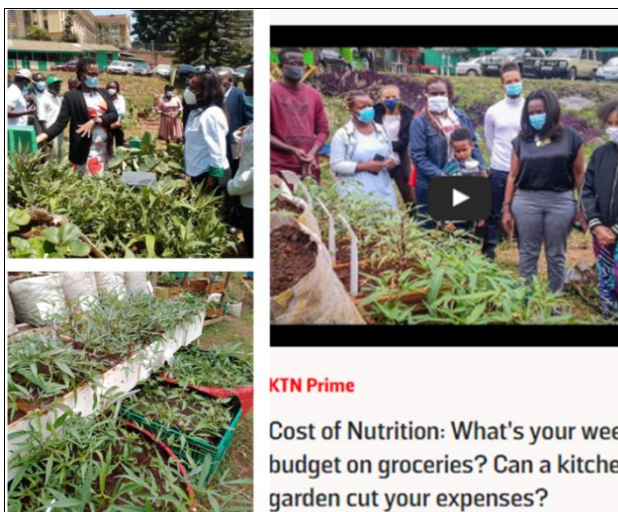
CIP, in collaboration with its partner, NRCRI, held a one-day sensitization and awareness creation meeting on OFSP in Lafia to inform the farmers about the health and wealth potentials of OFSP. The team also identified farmers (whose root production was still ongoing) in order to create demand for OFSP roots through awareness creation by conducting marketing-drive activities in markets, grocery stores, confectionaries, and other outlets within and outside the location of the OFSP farmers' fields. Twenty-four (20 men, four women) OFSP farmers attended. Four lead farmers were identified, cutting across the three agricultural zones of the state. The team also went to Benue State and identified two lead farmers and 50 commercial OFSP roots producers.

2. Marketing drives in Nasarawa and Imo States

The CIP–TAAT team conducted market drives in Nasarawa and Imo States that targeted creating awareness of OFSP and its different recipes and products that can be derived from root processing, thereby increasing the demand for both the vines and the roots. The materials used during the awareness campaign were OFSP flyers, OFSP polo shirts with logos, and OFSP roots. At the marketing locations, 5 kg of roots of both 'Solo Gold' and 'Mothers' Delight' were distributed. The drives were conducted alongside OFSP farmers in the states across selected markets, restaurants, grocery stores, and others. These farmers are beneficiaries of FMARD. The vine distribution exercise was to mitigate the impact of flooding and loss of crops experienced by these farmers earlier in 2020. FMARD distributed 26,000 bundles of vines across four states in 2020.

3. OFSP root-processing and value addition trainings in Kano and Jigawa States

CIP–Nigeria, in collaboration with the Federal College of Agricultural Produce Technology (FCAPT), organized an eight-day training workshop on processing and value addition of OFSP roots in eight selected schools in Kano and Jigawa States. The training featured practical production of various products processed from OFSP. Some of the products included OFSP bread, meat pie, doughnut, chin-chin, OFSP juice, and OFSP pizza. The schools gave their full support and attention, and were pleased with the training workshop. One of the beneficiary schools (Government Girls Science School Taura), knowing the crop's nutritional value, requested 200 kg of OFSP roots for inclusion in the students' meals in the school. Eight secondary/senior secondary schools covering 350 students and their teachers participated in the training.



Component #3: Deployment of Appropriate Technology

CIP worked with the CDTO, led by FARA, to develop TAAT OFSP technology outreach materials on sweetpotato plant material conservation through (Triple S technology). The OFSP Compact participated in the CDTO seminar series on “Enhancing Commercialization of Africa’s Agricultural Research Products – Orange-fleshed Sweet Potato Value Chain & Water Management Enabler Compact.” The seminar attracted an online audience of more than 500 participants and an engaging online discussion on commercialization of OFSP. A brief/promotional outreach material was also developed and

disseminated (available at <https://library.faraafrica.org/technologies/>)

In Kenya CIP is still showcasing OFSP technologies through the MoALF’s Kitchen Gardening Initiative, through which it aims to reach up to 1 million HH by creating awareness and enhancing their access to nutritious foods. The CIP-TAAT project in Kenya promoted the establishment of nutritious kitchen gardens with OFSP for 1,051 beneficiaries (631 men, 420 women).

Component #4: Commercialization

To increase the supply and demand for OFSP roots and products on the market, CIP has engaged and developed the capacity of various actors in the OFSP value chain, including aggregators, processors, and retailers, in the implementing countries. For example, in Kenya and leveraging with other CIP’s projects, CIP is partnering with a medium-scale commercial food processor focusing on new processing technology that significantly increases shelf life of the vitamin A content in OFSP puree. The production, commercialization, and scaling of OFSP puree have great potential for improving nutrition of non-farming HH and serving as a healthy source of baby food to low-income HH in urban areas.

In Uganda the project continued to facilitate the marketing of OFSP vines and roots from TAAT DVMs by linking them to other farmers for sale of vines and to processors for sale of roots. In Q4 one OFSP processor and one aggregator were involved in processing of 1 metric ton (MT) of processed products. The total volume of sales in terms of fresh roots were 400 MT covering 2,400 HH.

In Malawi 100 aggregators and three commercial processors, working through 15 retail shops, have developed a value chain for OFSP. Some 300 MT of fresh roots were sold in the last quarter, reaching 50,000 HH with OFSP vines and roots. In partnership with IITA-Uganda, CIP scientists trained 65 youths in Kalangala district. They were trained on commercializing OFSP along the different nodes of the value chain (i.e., vine multiplication; OFSP fresh root production; silage-making using OFSP vines; and value addition including making flour and confectionaries, including chapati, cakes, and doughnuts).

On demand creation and messaging for OFSP and farmer mobilization, CIP continues to partner with The Mediae Company to

develop four new episodes on OFSP and puree utilization. These are to be aired on Kenya’s most-watched television channel, under the series “Shamba Shape Up,” which has a viewership of 3.5 million per episode. This is a buildup from a previous exercise that was done in collaboration with The Mediae Company, the producer of “Shamba Shape Up,” CIP under the TAAT, the RTB Puree Scaling Fund, and Bio-innovate projects. The main objective of the filming and airing of these episodes is to develop OFSP market promotion content and showcase new technologies (e.g., Triple S) to a wider audience through citizen TV. The episodes will be aired and include priority topics along the OFSP value chain. Topics include how to access clean planting materials, good agricultural practices, harvesting and postharvesting management, value addition, and utilization, including food safety issues and quality standards.

In Kenya and Uganda, CIP continues to adapt digital technology solutions as a COVID-19 response strategy (e.g., use of SMS platforms, videos, and training materials) to reach extension agents and smallholders farmers with knowledge on good agricultural practices as well as nutrition information of OFSP. CIP is still engaged in ongoing collaboration with digital providers in Kenya ([iShamba](#) and [arifu](#)). The project design has been done and implementation commenced in October 2020. An OFSP digital platform was officially launched in December 2020. The development of E-learning modules (based on existing OFSP training course modules) in English continues.

Component4#: Program Management

In Q4 all the pending approvals, no-objection transactions, and clarifications relating to work plans, procurement plans, and partner SGAs were approved by IITA–TAAT PMU. The TAAT coordinator has been recruited and joined CIP on 1 December 2020. Recruitment for the technology transfer officer position is almost complete. The following partner SGAs were fully executed:

- SGA between CIP and NRCRI, Nigeria
- SGA between CIP and KALRO, Kenya
- SGA between CIP and IIAM

B.2 – Leveraging TAAT program investments (cash and/or in-kind contribution)

CIP as a country lead in Malawi organized the first TAAT country-level coordination meeting on 17 December 2020. In Malawi TAAT is supporting several projects in various CGIAR centers, government departments, private companies, university colleges, NGOs, and private farmers. The country coordination team aims at improving internal coordination, harmonization, and collaboration among the different compacts operating within the country and enhancing their collective alignment to country strategic goals. CIP-OFSP TAAT also participated in the Work Area 3 of the COVID-19 Hub.

CIP and partners were actively engaged in the Africa Day of Food and Nutrition Security on 29–30 October 2020, themed “Resilient Food Systems toward Healthy Diets for the Vulnerable during Emergencies: Lessons from the Covid-19 Pandemic.” CIP and partners worked together to prepare joint presentations for two sub-themes (break-out sessions), including on the role of biofortification as an innovative technology for creating healthy diets and resilient food systems on the continent. Joyce Maru (CIP) presented biofortification in the sub-theme session on scaling-up toward mitigating and preventing malnutrition. Biofortification/OFSP was featured in the outcome documents for the two sub-themes, in the speech read by the African Union Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (AUC-DREA) commissioner, in the nutrition champion's key speech (the former president of Tanzania) and in the final communique shared on the final day of the event. More information is available from this blog <https://cipotato.org/blog/covid-pandemic-overshadows-africa-day-for-food-and-nutrition-security/>

CIP, in partnership with HarvestPlus and other partners, continues to engage with AU-DREA, especially in the joint efforts to mainstream biofortification, including OFSP into AU programs, and to identify opportunities for contributing to the AU’s COVID-19 food and nutrition security response. CIP and HarvestPlus are working with AU-DREA to fast-track development and launch of the Framework for Upscaling Biofortification in Africa before the next AU heads of state summit.

B.3 – Outcome reporting:

Outcome Indicators	Baseline Values (a)	End Target	Annual Target	Actual (b)	Progress Assessment towards end target	Status assessment 1=Completed (≥100%) 2= On track (50-99%) 3= In progress (25-49%) 4= Outstanding (0-24%) 5=Dropped off/Suspended	Comments (if any)
% increase household income							
% increase crop productivity							
% increase livestock productivity							

% increase fish productivity							
No. of jobs created (of which women & youth)							
Tons of food (additional)							
Household dietary diversity							
Value of additional production							

Data will be collected during the 2nd quarter of 2021 to inform outcome reporting.

B.4 – Output reporting: Attribution to TAAT versus Contribution should be provided

Output Indicators	Baseline Values (a)	End Target	Annual Target (d)	Actual (b)		Progress Assessment to reach end target (% realized) 1=Completed (≥100%) 2= On track (50-99%) 3= In progress (25-49%) 4= Outstanding (0-24%) 5=Dropped off/Suspended (b/c)	Status assessment 1=Completed (≥100%) 2= On track (50-99%) 3= In progress (25-49%) 4= Outstanding (0-24%) 5=Dropped off/Suspended (b/d)	Comments (if any)
				Attribution	Contribution			
Component 1#: Creation of an enabling environment for technology adoption								
1.1.1 Government Level Interactions performed per country using promotional material of the OFSP Compact manifesto and reported per country	0	12	4	Kenya 2 Uganda 14 Nigeria 5 Malawi 2		2 (on track) 75% 2 On track 80% 2 On track 75% 2 (On track) 80%	2 (on-track) On track 1 Completed On track	
1.1.2 advocacy and awareness raising activities organized at regional level	0	6	2		4	2 (on-track)	1 Completed	
1.1.3 advocacy and awareness raising activities organized at national level per country (12 total)	0	12	3	Kenya 2 Uganda 3 Nigeria 3 Malawi 2		2 (on track) 75% 2 On track 80%	2 (on-track) 2 (on track)	
Component 2#: Regional Technology Delivery Infrastructure								
2.2.2 Demonstrations of OFSP technologies to stakeholders in each country	0	18	6	Malawi (2) Kenya (1) Nigeria (2) Mozambique (2)		2 (on track) 50% 2 (on track) 40%	2 (on-track) 2 (on track)	
2.3.1 At least 5 NARS trained supported to maintain their planting material and breeder seed	0	5	2	Uganda (1) Kenya (1) Nigeria (2) Mozambique (1)		1 Completed) 100%	2 (on track)	
2.3.2 100,000 pre-basic seed vine cuttings distributed to private sector and public sector multipliers		100,000	20,000	Nigeria 26,000 Vine cuttings Malawi 4,119,800 Vine cuttings		1 Completed) 100%	1 Completed	

At least 1 training delivered to primary multipliers and companies per country (6 total)	0	6	3	Malawi (5) Uganda (1) Nigeria (2) Mozambique (4 DVMs)	1 Completed	2 (on-track)	
At least 20 company staff trained in quality declared planting material production	0	24	8	Mozambique 13 Agricultural Extension Agents	1 Completed	2 (on track)	
At least 6 local OFSP vine multipliers trained, monitored, and strengthened to produce and market planting material for farmers per country (36 total)	0	36	12	Malawi 47 Male 14 Female Kenya 37 23 Male 12 Female Nigeria (20 Male ; 4 Female Uganda 56 Vine multipliers Uganda 65 youth trained to make silage from sweetpotato vines and non-marketable roots	1 Completed 100%	2 (on track)	
At least 120,000 farmers have bought or received OFSP vine cuttings from DVMs		120,000	40,000	24,000 households (1,200,000 vine cuttings to various beneficiaries) Uganda; 5,000 farmers in Mozambique	2 On track		
At least 20 million vines have been distributed or sold to farmers	0	20,000,000		6,719,800 (Nigeria & Malawi) Working towards 20,000,000 vine cuttings	2 On track 2 On track	2 On track 2 On track	
Component 3#: Deployment of Appropriate Technology							
Multi-channel communication strategy developed for at least 5 countries.	0	5	2	Kenya (1) Uganda (1) Nigeria (1)	1 Completed		
At least 4 communication channels have been used by 5 countries.		5	2	Kenya (3) Uganda (1) Nigeria (1)	1 Completed		
Number of men and women reached through communication outreach		200,000	670,000	Over 3M in Kenya and Uganda	1 Completed		The reach through multi-channel communication strategy, using video, radio, TV, social media, demos, leaflets and digital

								platforms especially during covid-19 has enabled the compact to reach very large numbers OFSP technologies.
Component4: Program Management								
TAAT4.1 No. of fiduciary activities handled effectively and efficiently								

B.5 – Highlights of other achievements: training, workshop, field visit, field day, promotional campaigns

Type	Country/ Location	Objective	Number of participants (Male/Female)	Outcome of the event	Enablers/Partners (Name and Contact of the Enablers/Partner)
Community-based facilitator training in vine & root production	Malawi	To empower community in OFSP production and utilization	386 males, 358 females	Community-based facilitators were trained	CIP-RTC Project
Extension workers training in vine and root production.	Malawi	ToT in vine & root production	29 male and 7 women	Extension agents were trained in OFSP vine & root production	TAAT - SUSTAIN
Extension workers training in OFSP flour making.	Malawi	To enhance consumption of OFSP in household/ processed food products	10 men and 2 women	Extension workers were trained in OFSP flour making	TAAT- UNITED
OFSP Training: 8-day training workshop on processing and value addition of OFSP roots in eight selected schools	Nigeria (Kano and Jigawa States)	To increase awareness of OFSP and Vitamin A nutrition among school children	350 students and their teachers participated in the training.	Students from 8 secondary/senior secondary schools were trained in OFSP & Vitamin A nutrition	FCAPT -Nigeria

B.6 – Unanticipated (unexpected) or additional results

Type	Assessment

Output reporting – general comments

C – PROJECT COMPLIANCE PROGRESS REPORTING

C.1.1– Performance of Stakeholders – (performance and challenges if any)

Stakeholder category		General Assessment
Bank Performance		<i>Assessment on Bank performance with the regards to the operation during the reporting period, including timely responsiveness to requests, technical assistance provided, etc.</i>
Compact Performance		<i>Self-assessment on the implementation of the monitoring and evaluation system, responsiveness to supervision recommendations, timeliness of preparing requests, etc.</i>
Other Stakeholders	Stakeholder1	<i>Assessment on the functioning of collaborative arrangements and responsiveness to the clients demands.</i>
	Stakeholder2	<i>Assessment on the functioning of collaborative arrangements and responsiveness to the clients demands.</i>

C.1.2– Gender mainstreaming activities during the reporting period (where applicable)

OFSP-TAAT Compact targeting strategy is focused on high vitamin A deficiency vulnerability locations and target groups: women of reproductive age, children under 5, and adolescent girls. Gender diversity and equity concerns have been considered and well-integrated into TAAT’s delivery, including promoting participation of women and youth in economic opportunities. Monitoring and reporting of gender-disaggregated data against all key indicators have been fully mainstreamed. Diversity and inclusiveness are promoted in partner selection. Communication materials are contextualized for local use and, where appropriate, translated into local languages and/or enhanced with visual aids and images to be suitable for target beneficiaries. Sweetpotato ToT manuals include modules on gender and diversity issues for every value chain node. We conducted qualitative research studies that explore gender dynamics and how they influence adoption of OFSP.

C.1.3– Compliance with environmental and social safeguards during the reporting period

Measure (to be undertaken during the reporting period)	Type	Deadline	Status (Pending initiation, in progress, finalized)	Comments

C.1.4– Audit compliance during the reporting period

Outstanding Audit report(s) (by year)	Status (Completed, In progress, Initiation, Initiation, Suspended)	Comments (Include expected date for audit report submission)

Key issue (As per financial audit report and/or ORPF memo)	Corrective measures	Status (Completed, In progress, Initiation, Initiation, Suspended)	Comments

C.1.5– Challenges (difficulties) encountered, and actions taken during the reporting period

Challenges (difficulties)	Actions taken	Comment (if any)
Pending clarifications related to the contract formal amendment, the application of the indirect costs and the work plan/procurement plan had led to a suspension of expenses on the TAAT OFSP budget	Communication with TAAT PMU. All the pending approvals, no-objection transactions, and clarifications relating to work plans, procurement plans, and partner SGAs are now approved by IITA–TAAT PMU.	Several issues were resolved through consistent communication.
Recruitment of TAAT coordinator and technology transfer officer was delayed.	The TAAT coordinator has been recruited and joined CIP on 1 December 2020. Recruitment of the technology transfer officer position is almost complete.	
SGAs delayed	The partner SGAs were fully executed.	

C.1.6– Risks (beyond control) and mitigation measures during the reporting period

Risks	Mitigation measures	Comment (if any)
COVID-19 pandemic and outbreak in TAAT OFSP countries.	Only essential activities identified by CIP. These are (1) maintenance and multiplication of germplasm and (2) any activities related to food production (multiplication and distribution of planting material and inputs).	Approved essential project activities continued.
Procurement of equipment has been delayed.	CIP has prepared all procurement documents ready for approval when the goods procurement is possible.	CIP Procurement team coordinated with IITA-PMU and Bank Team
COVID-19 impact affected progress of implementation given restriction on travels and partner contracts.	CIP has revised work plan to consider COVID-19 environment in order to mitigate the problem and accelerate implementation.	

C.1.7– Assumptions and actions taken during the reporting period

Assumptions	Actions taken	Comment (if any)
Approval process	Explored ways to reduce approval times.	
Performance contracting – not possible to charge time for staff partially contributing to the project in target countries.	Leveraged with other ongoing CIP projects where possible.	

C.2 – Procurement Performance during the reporting period

C.2.1 – Procurement plan implementation¹

Provide general comments on procurement process implementation during the reporting period, highlighting key accomplishment, difficulties facing procurement as well as Compact's and Bank's performance.

Goods, works or services to be procured <i>(Under procurement process during the reporting period)</i>	Status as compared to procurement plan (on track, delayed, significantly delayed)	If contract signed	Comments

Average time between key procurement processes finalized during the reporting period			
Responsibility	Process	Target # days	Actual # days
Bank	Transmission of Bids to No-objection		
	Bid evaluation Report to No-Objection		
Compact	Bid closing to submission of evaluation report		
	No-Objection of Evaluation Report to contract Signature Date		

C.2.2 – Management of ongoing contracts during the reporting period

Method of payment <i>(DP, RF)</i>	Category <i>(Goods, Works or Services)</i>	Contract title	Contract Amount <i>(please specify the currency)</i>	Amount paid	%	Contract End date	Comments

C.3 – Project Execution and Financing during the reporting period

¹ Updated procurement plan on Goods, Works and Services to be incorporated as an annex

C.3.1 – Financial Progress

Criteria		Total amount (a)	Cumulative amount to date (b)	Cumulative amount at beginning of the fiscal year (c)	Annual projection (d)	Progress towards annual projection	Progress towards total
Disbursement	Financing source/inst.1						
	Financing source/inst.2						
	Financing source/inst.3						
Budget commitments (Bank approved financing only)							
Counterpart funding disbursement							
Co-financing disbursement	Co-Fin1						
	Co-Fin2						

Criteria	Assessment <i>(on whether annual and final targets are expected to be reached as well as the performance of the Borrower, the Bank and co-financiers (as applicable))</i>
Disbursement by source (Bank approved financing only)	\$775,000
Budget commitments (Bank approved financing only)	\$1,830,063
Counterpart funding disbursement	N/A
Co-financing disbursements	N/A

C.3.2 – Status of Revolving Fund justification during the reporting period

RF number	Actual lapsed time since disbursement	% of RF Justified	Comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	

D- SUCCESS STORY (MAX 1 PAGE) DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

Please provide the narrative on any outstanding development or success story (evidence based) with quantity and quality data and information required. Visibility materials such as pictures, short video, news clippings etc and/or links to access them are required

1. **Photograph:** Photographs bring a story to life. The photo should be colorful, depict action, capture people's attention, and feature a main character prominently. Please attach only a .jpg, .bmp, or .gif file with at least 300 dpi (dots per inch) or 3MB resolution. Please include the photographer's name, organization, and caption for the photo
2. **Outline** of the success story should be as below:
 - ✓ **Maximum character limit:** 1,200 characters, including spaces
 - ✓ **Headline:** A good headline or title is simple, jargon-free, and has impact. It summarizes the story concisely and includes action verbs that bring the story to life. For example: **"Cocoa Brings Cash, Creates Better Conditions for Farmer Families in Borno State, Nigeria"**
 - ✓ **Body:** The first paragraphs should showcase the challenge encountered, how it was addressed, what interesting things did you find out, what opportunities did you use., how it has transformed the life of farmers and/ or their communities, and the context of the program intervention.
 - ✓ **Photograph:** As per the details in (1)
 - ✓ **Authors and contact details**

OFSP VINE MULTIPLICATION IS TRANSFORMING LIVES OF PEOPLE IN TORORO (UGANDA)

As the day broke in the famous "Tororo rock" town of Tororo in Eastern Uganda, I expected the same old field workday activity. I knew we were to have a meeting with the vine multipliers. In this "white cereal" dominated community, orange-fleshed sweetpotato (OFSP) has been introduced barely a year ago by the International Potato Center (CIP). Aceng Immaculate is one of the four vine multipliers who were identified and trained in Tororo district to multiply clean OFSP vines before she



Aceng Immaculate (middle) and some of the women members from her group listening to Mr. Zakayo the agriculture officer as he explains how to harvest OFSP vines for sale

can sell it to farmers. Something is, however, special about Immaculate. Her energy and enthusiasm are amazing. No wonder, she is a charismatic leader of a farmer group -"Baringanya Paminyunyi" Multipurpose Cooperative Society, which prides in a membership of 90 farmers. Vine multiplication is thus done by this group. Founded on 15th May 2017, this predominantly women group is already known in both research and agricultural extension circles as a formidable group for tackling food insecurity and the rampant malnutrition in the area. One may say, the group is comprised of poor farmers-but who can despise the power of togetherness? And the group is on the right track incorporating multiplication of OFSP as one of the seed multiplication enterprises. The group multiplies other seed including maize, ground nuts, and beans. When asked about the purpose, aim and inspiration of the formation of the group, Aceng

responds with joy, “Our sole purpose is to continually improve food security and make sure the children in our community get an education”.



A news paper clip about the work being done by CIP to promote OFSP in Uganda, published in November 2020 (Credit. Awat Lynnette)

outreach in the community. “We carry out some trainings within ourselves as women and mothers to teach each other about the proper ways to feed our children and help them grow well” Immaculate says. I glee in agreement, especially knowing that CIP interventions are nutrition centric especially on Maternal and Child nutrition. I have known overtime the challenge of prolonged dry season in vine multiplication. Keeping vines in the dry season between December to March was their first test. The group has already learnt that irrigation and fencing are a must for the survival of vine multiplication enterprise. Empowering the group to promote and seek for buyers of vines will see them to the horizon of unlimited opportunities in vine business, as CIP–Uganda increasingly witness many NGOs and government initiatives making OFSP the number one crop in fighting malnutrition and hunger in Uganda. This is one of the several ways TAAT is changing lives.

E. KEY LESSONS LEARNT DURING THE REPORTING CYCLE

Key lessons learnt on how the program is being implemented, what does work and what does not work; and what needs to be done, valuable information to improve performance and inform management decision making.

F- PLAN OF WORK FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD (as per AWP)

As per the approved work plan for 2020 with target, milestones, and timelines

The group is currently multiplying vines on 1,200-m² plot but hopes to expand. The four varieties multiplied (‘Kakamega’, ‘NASPOT 8’, ‘NASPOT 13’, and ‘Ejumula’) are not only high yielding but also incredibly nutritious. The local presence of the vine multiplier implies that quality planting material can be accessed by the farmers. Already, the vines from this plot have been distributed to over 1,500 households in Tororo. Not only has the group sold the vines, but the members also got 500 cuttings each to grow roots for their households. What is interesting is that even when this group is in its first season of growing OFSP, members are already engaged in

E.1.1 – Status of key activities to be undertaken

Component	Activity	Deadline	Status (<i>Completed, In progress, Initiation, Initiation, Suspended</i>)	Comments (<i>include a % of achievement for activity</i>)

E.1.2 – Planned key activities for next implementation period (as per AWP)²

Component	Activity	KPI (from the list of TAAT Common KPIs or Specific Compact Custom KPIs)	Partner and Enablers for Commodities or Commodities for Enablers	Deadline

² Include any pending/delayed/suspended activity from previous reports