



Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT)

Compact: OFSP Project

Quarter 3 Project Performance Report (July–September 2020)

Project Code: 2100155036067

October 2020

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Acronyms

AfDB	African Development Bank'
AU-DREA	African Union Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture
CIP	International Potato Center
DVM	Decentralized vine multiplier
GAP	Good agricultural practices
IITA	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
OFSP	Orange-fleshed sweetpotato
PMU	Project management unit
TAAT	Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation

A. Report summary and proposed actions

Compact/Unit	Orange-fleshed Sweetpotato (OFSP)		
Reporting Period	July–September 2020		
Countries Covered	Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Uganda		
Responsible Project Staff	Joyce Maru, Program Coordinator (Sweetpotato) Paul Demo, Regional Director for Africa (SSA) Simon Heck, Program Director (Sweetpotato) Nancy Ajima, Contracts and Grants Manager Jemimah Njenga-Kimata, Project Management Officer		
Commodities and Enablers	None		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of an enabling environment for technology adoption • Regional technology delivery infrastructure • Deployment of appropriate technology • Program management 		
Expected Date for Progress Report Submission		Actual Date for Progress Report Submission	
7 July 2020		31 October 2020	
Current Closing Date		Current Disbursement Deadline	
17 July 2020		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	533,155	30 October, \$1,055,063	69
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.1 Project data

A.2 Executive summary on project implementation during the reporting period

In Quarter 3 (Q3) of 2020, activities focused mainly on planning and communication with Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation's (TAAT) project management unit (PMU). This was a result of the decision by CIP management to stop operational expenses for the orange-fleshed sweetpotato (OFSP) Compact due to two specific factors. One was the delayed/lack of approvals on key documents; the second was the lack of clarification about the operationalization of payment of indirect costs from the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA). This decision was officially communicated to the PMU through formal letters submitted by CIP in December 2019 and February 2020.

The TAAT charge code was closed during this period, and therefore no expenses were incurred during this period. CIP management continued to coordinate with the PMU about the outstanding approvals and clarifications related to the work plans, procurement plans, and formal amendment of the contract between CIP and IITA–TAAT PMU. The work plan was revised further and resubmitted in light of COVID-19 adjustments, and in September 2020 IITA confirmed the approval of the 2020 procurement plan. Yet there are still some no-objection transactions still pending formal approvals by the African Development Bank's (AfDB) clearinghouse, including the recruitment of a TAAT coordinator and technology transfer officer.

There are also still some ongoing TAAT activities that are not dependent on the TAAT charge code but largely leverage on ongoing CIP sweetpotato program activities through existing CIP projects. In addition, the COVID-19 restriction on movement and travel affected project implementation, including TAAT; therefore most of the activities reported in Q3 are those implemented through partners and/or virtually. At the time of this report was written, the TAAT charge code has been reactivated and CIP will be able to report activities directly attributed to TAAT in Q4.

B. Project implementation performance progress reporting

B.1 Progress toward project development objective

Component 1: Creation of an enabling environment for technology adoption

In Kenya and Uganda, CIP has participated in various national fora on COVID-19 response and monthly food and nutrition linkages technical working group meetings (e.g., the food and nutrition linkages technical working group). The project, in collaboration with other CIP projects, has participated in virtual panel discussions hosted

on national television through the standard group national fora on transforming Kenya. The panel discussions included topical issues relating to the impact of COVID-19 on the agriculture sector, such as the disruption of supply chains on access to food in Kenya, food and nutrition sufficiency, and the contribution of OFSP to the agri-food system. Viewership reached more than 8m people per episode.



Component 2: Regional technology delivery infrastructure

OFSP seed system: Strengthen and build a viable OFSP seed system to enable technology uptake



In Kenya, Malawi, and Uganda, various beneficiaries have been trained on various priority areas. These include rapid OFSP seed multiplication; good agricultural practices (GAP); maintenance, and operation of irrigation equipment to help them maintain OFSP crop production throughout the year; postharvest management technologies and OFSP roots-grading techniques; and how to develop a planting calendar for a continuous production of vines and roots. In Malawi, and in collaboration with the Diversity project in Malawi, seven farmer

field days were held from 10 to 30 June 2020 on the already established OFSP demo plots. The objective of the field days was to refresh beneficiary farmers' knowledge and skills on production of improved OFSP varieties and the application of climate-smart agricultural

practices. Farmers from local communities were able to observe the yield performance of four selected OFSP varieties performed at the demo sites.

A total of 1,872,200 vine cuttings were distributed to various beneficiaries in Uganda. Decentralized vine multipliers (DVMs) were trained and supported to multiply and market more than 500,000 vine cuttings in Uganda.

Component 3: Deployment of appropriate technology

Commercialization

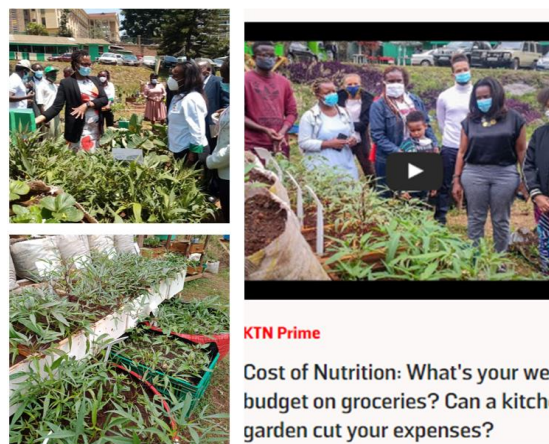
To increase the utilization of OFSP puree, a baking training using OFSP puree was held on 21 and 28 July 2020 at Cleanshelf Supermarkets, Shujaa Mall branch in Nairobi county, Kenya. This was in collaboration with CIP's TAAT, RTB Puree Scaling Fund, and BioInnovate projects, Euro Ingredients Ltd, Cleanshelf Supermarkets, and Organi Ltd. The objectives were to train participants on how OFSP puree is formulated into bread and buns and address the challenges faced during the baking of OFSP bread.



In Kenya, profiling of processors for baked and fried wheat-based products in Nairobi was initiated to assess the formal bakeries in Nairobi based on their location, years in business, size of operation, range of products, and market base. The process will also determine the nature and level of operation of informal bakeries/fryers in Nairobi county based on these same five criteria. Data collection and the findings will be shared in the project's Q4 report.

In Malawi and Uganda, the project facilitated the marketing of OFSP vines and roots from TAAT DVMs by linking them to other farmers for sale of vines and also to processors for sale of roots.

In Kenya, CIP established OFSP demo plots at Kilimo House for showcasing OFSP technologies through the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries' Kitchen Gardening Initiative. Through this initiative, the ministry aims to reach up to 1m households by creating awareness and enhancing their access to nutritious foods. OFSP was one of the technologies identified as a nutrition-sensitive value chain to promote.



On demand creation and messaging for OFSP and farmer mobilization, CIP partnered with The Mediae Company to air 10 episodes on OFSP and puree utilization on Kenya's most-watched television channel, under the series "Shamba Shape Up," which has a viewership of 3.5m per episode. This exercise was planned in collaboration with The Mediae Company, the producer of the seed service unit and CIP under the TAAT, RTB Puree

Scaling Fund, and BioInnovate projects. The main objective of the filming exercise was to develop OFSP market promotion content for broadcast to a wider audience through Citizen TV. The episodes aired between 22 March 22 and 13 June 2020 and included a number of priority topics along the OFSP value chain (e.g., how to access clean planting materials, GAP, harvesting and postharvesting management, value addition, and utilization, including food safety issues and quality standards).

In Kenya CIP is adapting digital technology solutions as a COVID-19 response strategy, including use of SMS platforms, videos, and training materials to reach extension agents and smallholder farmers with knowledge on GAP as well as nutrition information of OFSP. In Kenya CIP is still engaged in ongoing collaboration with digital providers in Kenya [iShamba](#) and [arifu](#). The project has been designed and implementation scheduled to start in October. We continue to develop an English version of E-learning modules (based on existing OFSP training course modules), which will be operational by December 2020.

Component 4: Program management

The TAAT charge code was closed during this period; therefore no expenses were incurred in Q3. CIP management continued to coordinate with TAAT’s PMU about the outstanding approvals and clarifications related to the work plans, procurement plans, and formal amendment of the contract between CIP and IITA–TAAT PMU. The work plan was revised further and resubmitted in light of COVID-19 adjustments. IITA confirmed the approval of the 2020 procurement plan in September 2020, but there are still some no-objection transactions still pending formal approvals by the AfDB’s clearing house, including the recruitment of a TAAT coordinator and technology transfer officer.

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

CIP, in partnership with HarvestPlus and other partners, continue to engage with the African Union Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (AU-DREA). This is especially the case 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 summit of the African Union’s Heads of State.

B.3 Outcome reporting: Outcome case study reports using the standard template

Outcome Indicators (as specified in the RLF)	Baseline Values	End Target (expected value at project completion)	Annual Target	Actual		Progress Assessment toward End Target (% realized)	Status Assessment (to Reach Annual and End Targets) 1=Completed 2= On track 3= Outstanding 4=Suspended	Comments (if any)
				Attribution	Contribution			
% 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								

No data have been collected to inform outcome reporting.

B.4 Output reporting: Attribution to TAAT versus contribution

Output Indicators (by components)	Baseline Values (a)	End Target (expected value at project completion) (c)	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 (to reach annual and end targets) 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, 1		2 (on track) 75%	2 (on track)	
1.1.2 Advocacy and awareness-raising activities organized at regional level	0	6	2	1		2 (on track) 50%	2 (on track)	
1.1.3 Advocacy and awareness-raising activities organized at national level per country (12 total)	0	12	3	Kenya, 2 Uganda, 1		2 (on track) 75%	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)		2 (on track) 50%	2 (on track)	
2.3.1 At least 5 national Agricultural research institutes trained supported to maintain their planting material and breeder seed	0	5	2	Uganda (1) Kenya (1)				
2.3.2 At least 100,000 pre-basic seed vine cuttings distributed to private sector and public sector multipliers		100,000	20,000					
At least 1 training delivered to primary multipliers and companies per country (6 total)	0	6	3	Malawi (1) Uganda (1)		2 (on track) 75%	2 (on track)	
At least 20 company staff trained in quality declared planting material production	0	24	8					
At least 6 local OFSP vine multipliers trained, monitored, and strengthened to produce and market planting material for	0	36	12	Malawi (5): 3 men, 2 women				

Output Indicators (by components)	Baseline Values (a)	End Target (expected value at project completion) (c)	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 (to reach annual and end targets) 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			
farmers per country. (36 total)				Kenya (37): 23 men, 12 women				
At least 120,000 farmers have bought or received OFSP vine cuttings from DVMs		120,000	40,000	Uganda (9,451): 5,691 men, 3,760 women				
At least 20m vines have been distributed or sold to farmers	0	20m	8,m	3,372,200				
Component 3: Deployment of appropriate technology								
Multi-channel communication strategy developed for at least 5 countries	0	5	2	Kenya (1) Uganda (1)				
At least 4 communication channels have been used by 5 countries		5	2	Kenya (3) Uganda (1)				
No. of men and women reached through communication outreach		200,000	670,000	Over 3m in Kenya and Uganda				The reach through multichannel 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.
Component 4: Program management								
TAAT4.1 Number of fiduciary activities handled effectively and efficiently								

Outcome reporting – general comments:

As mentioned in the executive summary, activities have not been executed according to the work plan. The activities reported here are those that leverage ongoing CIP projects and those that were already initiated prior to closing. Follow-up communications were made between CIP and TAAT's PMU on the procurement plan and the work plan that had been submitted to the PMU. The work plan was approved in Q3. CIP management communicated with the PMU about pending requests for clarifications related to the contract between CIP and IITA-TAAT PMU.

Output reporting – general comments

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

Type (as applicable: training, workshop, field visit, field day, promotional/outreach campaigns, radio/TV show, others)	Country / Location	Objective	No. of Participants (male/female)	Outcome of the Event	Enablers/Partners (name and contact of the enablers/partner)

B.6 Unanticipated (unexpected) or additional results

Type	Assessment

C. Project compliance progress reporting

C.1.1 Performance of stakeholders: performance and challenges

Stakeholder Category	General Assessment
Bank Performance	Assessment on Bank performance with the regards to the operation during the reporting period, including timely responsiveness to requests, technical assistance provided, etc.
Compact Performance	Self-assessment on the implementation of the monitoring and evaluation system, responsiveness to supervision recommendations, timeliness of preparing requests, etc.
Other Stakeholders	Stakeholder 1 Assessment of the functioning of collaborative arrangements and responsiveness to client demands.
	Stakeholder 2 Assessment of the functioning of collaborative arrangements and responsiveness to client demands.

C.1.2 Gender mainstreaming activities during the reporting period

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

Measure	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

Key Issue	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	Communication with TAAT's PMU	Several issues were still pending, notably the request

costs and the work plan/procurement plan had led to a suspension of expenses on the TAAT OFSP budget		for clarity on allowed indirect costs to be charged to TAAT
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C.1.6 Risks (beyond control) and mitigation measures during the reporting period

Risks	Mitigation Measures	Comment
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 activities continued; all other activities were suspended.

C.1.7 Assumptions and actions taken during the reporting period

Assumptions	Actions Taken	Comment (if any)

C.2 Procurement performance during the reporting period

C.2.1 Procurement plan implementation

Goods, Works, or Services to Be Procured (under procurement process during the reporting period)	Status As Compared to Procurement Plan (on track, delayed, significantly delayed)	If Contract Signed	Comments

Note: Updated procurement plan on goods, works and services to be incorporated as an annex.

Average Time between Key Procurement Processes Finalized during the Reporting Period			
Responsibility	Process	Target # Days (as per ORPF guidelines)	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 (DP,RF)	Category (goods, works or services)	Contract Title	Contract Amount (specify the currency)	Amount Paid	%	Contract End Date	Comments

C.3 Project execution and financing during the reporting period

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 (expected cumulative amount) (d)	Progress toward Annual Projection (% realized) (b-c)/(d-c)	Progress toward Total (% realized) (b/a)

Disbursement (Bank approved financing only)	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
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 during the reporting period

Nothing to report as of Q3.

E. Key lessons learned during the reporting cycle

Nothing to report as of Q3.

F. Plan of work for the next reporting period, as per the approved work plan (AWP) for 2020 with target, milestones, and timelines

F.1.1 Status of key activities to be undertaken

Component	Activity	Deadline	Status (completed, in progress, initiation, initiation, suspended)	Comments (include a % of achievement for activity)

F.1.2 Planned key activities for next implementation period (as per AWP)¹

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

¹ Include any pending/delayed/suspended activity from previous reports.