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Scaling Climate-Resilient Innovations through Scaling for Impact Area of Work 4 in Nigeria and Ethiopia: A Technical Brief

Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT)

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Disclaimer

This report has been prepared as a deliverable for the TAAT programme and has not undergone peer review. Opinions stated herein are those of the author (s) and do not necessarily reflect the points of view of IITA or the TAAT programme.

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A maize field in Nigeria



Executive Summary

In alignment with the Scaling for Impact (S4I) mandate for Area of Work (AoW) 4, the TAAT Clearinghouse successfully integrated a suite of climate-resilient CGIAR innovations into national agricultural extension systems in Nigeria and Ethiopia. These interventions serve as primary evidence of the Clearinghouse's capacity to de-risk International Financial Institution (IFI) investments by building the technical competency required to sustain large-scale agricultural transformation.

1. Integrated CGIAR Innovations

- To drive agricultural transformation, the Clearinghouse has prioritised a portfolio of climate-smart technologies designed to reduce environmental footprints while maximising yield:
- Genetic Innovation: Deployment of climate-resilient maize and wheat varieties tailored for stressed environments.
- Water & Soil Management: Integration of Alternative Wetting and Drying (AWD) to optimise water use in rice systems and the application of organic amendments to restore soil health.
- Environmental Monitoring: Implementation of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) measurements to provide the baseline data required for climate-finance alignment.

2. Nigeria: Maize Post-Harvest & Aflatoxin Mitigation (Oct 2025)

In October 2025, experts from IITA, the Sasakawa African Association (SAA), and the SoftBank (e-kakashi) consortium delivered a targeted Training of Trainers (ToT) for extension agents and lead farmers at project sites in Nasarawa State.



one of the facilitators at the ToT in Nasarawa, Nigeria



A view of the ToT session in Jimma

3. Ethiopia: Strategic Wheat Expansion in Jimma Zone (Nov 2025)

- **Focus:** Reducing the 20-30% loss margin through improved post-harvest management for nutrition, storage, and market access.
- **Biological Control:** A central component was the management of aflatoxins using Aflasafe, ensuring grain quality meets international safety standards for IFI-funded **value chains**.

Participant Metrics & Gender Inclusion: 43 participants (38 males, 5 females) trained across all local governments.

Outcome: Established a localised cadre of experts capable of maintaining grain quality standards required for high-value maize aggregation.

From 21-22 November 2025, the TAAT Clearinghouse, TAAT Wheat Compact and ICARDA experts conducted a specialised ToT in Jimma, Ethiopia. This region, with 22 districts and significant irrigation potential, is a cornerstone of the national «Wheat Revolution.»

Participant Metrics & Gender Inclusion: The training reached 73 key stakeholders, with a strategic focus on cascading knowledge through the zonal (1 Female, 6 Male) and district levels (12 Female, 54 Male).

4. Impact Pathway & Value Proposition

The Clearinghouse is delivering on AoW 4 by creating a direct link between Technical Competency and Investment Sustainability:

1. Bridging the Capacity Gap: Human capital is now trained to protect large-scale IFI investments in irrigation and aggregation infrastructure.
2. Scientific Database Alignment: Reporting has shifted to include gender-disaggregated data and technical metrics (AWD, GHG, Aflasafe) required for CGIAR scientific review. The next

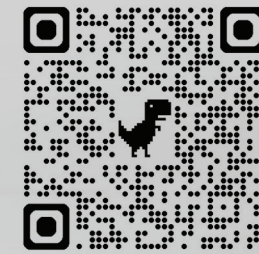
reporting cycle should capture post-training adoption rates to provide «Difference-in-Difference» impact evidence.

3. Market Integration: By professionalising storage and aflatoxin management, the Clearinghouse is preparing smallholders for entry into institutional, high-value markets.
4. Cross-Commodity Scaling: The success in the maize value chain is being leveraged to launch a dedicated Rice Post-Harvest ToT scheduled for late March 2026 in Lafia.
5. Aide Mémoire Integration: Ensure these technical results are reflected in the upcoming AfDB mission reports as evidence of TAAT's contribution to the PHRDG 1 goals.



A group photo of the participants at the ToT in Nasarawa state, Nigeria

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