



Report on Training Workshop on Rice Seed Production Technologies and Rice-Based Product Development for Ekiti State Youth and Women Entrepreneurs held at Cappa Bar Hall, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan, Nigeria

Date

22 – 27 September 2019

Context

The problem of food insecurity is a big challenge in Nigeria. Seed mixtures and lack of good quality rice seed is a common phenomenon and major constraint to rice production in Nigeria. Farmers do not have enough quantity of rice seed for production. The little quantity they have contain impurities and mixtures. Many seed producers lack basic knowledge on production of quality rice seeds. Thus, the need to strengthen the capacities of rice seed and paddy producers on fundamental tenet involved in rice seed/paddy production as well as empower the capacity of women on rice-based product development for income. The vision of Ekiti State Government in rice sector development was to address the challenges faced by farmers in the State with respect to lack of quality seed of improved rice varieties for farm expansion. The idea conceived by His excellency, the Executive Governor of Ekiti State was to train youth in rice seed production and women in rice-based product development and crop utilization options. These two key enterprises will improve socio economic livelihood of youths as well as improving their income base. The financial support by Ekiti State in conjunction with technical support by AfricaRice Center (AfricaRice) and Agriculture and Food Production Initiative (AFPI) was to strengthen the capacities of youth within the State as community-based seed producers. Sixty trainees attended the training workshop on rice seed production and forty women participated in the rice-based product processing options and crop utilization. The collaboration was based on technical support and knowledge transfer on rice seed production and rice-based product development technologies. The training included series of classroom lectures and PowerPoint presentations and field practical sessions from raising nursery beds to setting up of rice seed production fields and rice-based product development as an alternative to wheat importation. The training on rice

seed production technologies contains three key activities that covers eight modules and three key activities that covers six modules for rice-based product development and crop utilization.

Goal: The overall goal is to ensure that Nigeria attains self-sufficiency in rice production through access and availability of good quality seed of released rice varieties as well as empower women on rice-based product for income.

Objective: To enhance Ekiti State farmers' access to quality rice seed and make quality paddy available to millers/processors as well as creating job opportunities for women on rice-based product processing and crop utilization option.

The overall training objectives

1. The overall objective is to train rice farmers on seed production and women on rice-based processing options that will create self-employment opportunities and improve household income.
2. To provide an alternative source of livelihood for rice farmers and women through building their skills in seed production and rice-based product for economic opportunities within the rice-value chain.

Key activities – Seed production

Activity 1

- Choice of land, Recommended varieties, Choice of land, Nursery seed bed, Land preparation, Transplanting, Fertilizer application, Water management, Weed control, Rouging Post-harvest processing and product handling principles
- Nursery Bed Preparation, Field Practices, Seeding,

Activity 2

- Principle and practice of seed production, Seed quality control, Genetic purity maintenance

Activity 3

- Harvesting, threshing storage and quality control

Key activities – Rice-based product processing options and crop utilization

Activity 1

- Rice-based product development.
- Post-harvest processing and product handling principles

Activity 2

- Principles and practices in product development
- Rice-based product branding

Activity 3

- Standard product development rules
- Product storage principles and management
- Product shelf life assurance and standard
- Rice-based product packaging to attract premium price

Opening session

The trainees arrived the venue of the training workshop at Cappa bar of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) Ibadan on Monday, 22 September, 2019 and were registered. A total of Sixty (60) trainees attended the classroom and field sessions on rice seed production technologies of which forty (40) women participated in the rice-based product processing options and crop utilization. AfricaRice Regional Representative, Dr. Francis Nwilene welcome all trainees and team from Ekiti State Government. He thanked His Excellency, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, the Executive Governor of Ekiti State for his interest in agricultural development of the State and capacity building of the youths in Ekiti State, represented by Hon. Folorunsho Olabode, Honorable Commissioner of Agriculture and Rural development Ekiti State, presented the opening remarks and goodwill message His Excellency, the Governor of Ekiti State, Dr. Kayode Fayemi. Other members from the Government of Ekiti state present were Mr. Yakubu Oladele T., Program manager, Ekiti State ADP; Omole Rotimi Johnson, Desk Officer, Rice and Mr. Yomi Ogunrinde, PRO, Ekiti State. Dr. Nwilene advised trainees to take advantage of their access to IITA campus as a training ground and use this opportunity to learn, the Rice Seed Specialist, Dr. Abraham shaibu advised trainees to be proactive and begin to see their self as business owners as well as catalyst that will promote quality rice seed for farmers in Ekiti State that will enhance farmers yield and income.

Introduction

In September 2019, one hundred youths' trainees sponsored by Ekiti State Government were trained by Africa Rice Centre (AfricaRice) in conjunctions with Agriculture and Food Production Initiative (AFPI) on Rice seed production technologies and rice-based product development. The training was a practical approach which was reinforce with applied field demonstrations. The training covered eight modules covering all facets of seed production technologies ranging from site selection, nursery management, land preparation to Post-Harvest and storage operations for the seed production component and hand-on job training for rice-based product processing option and crop utilization component for women. This was essential because rice is a food staple food in Nigeria; hence there is the potential of providing gainful employment within the rice value chain. With the spike in unemployment rate in Nigeria, it is not only wise to harness the energies of youths who make up the bulk of the unemployed, within the rice value chain but also economically rewarding. Each trainee received a copy of the training manual on rice seed production and rice-based product processing options and crop utilization. The two aspect of the training sessions (rice seed production and rice-based product processing option and crop utilization) was thoroughly explained by the facilitators. Fourteen (14) rice-based product was developed by the trainees following the trainer's instruction and training manual. Classroom sessions through PowerPoint presentations covers eight modules on rice seed

production technologies as a prerequisite preparing the trainees for rice seed production field practical exercise. At the end of each presentation, all questions were tackled to the delight of the trainees. After the completion of the training programme, each trainee was issued a certificate.

Training

The training program started on Monday 22 September and end on Friday 27 September, 2019 and comprise of youths from Ekiti State. A total of 100 trainees selected from different LGAs in Ekiti State trained on rice seed production technologies and rice-based product development option and crop utilization. Eight training modules on rice seed production technologies and six modules on rice-based product development and crop utilization option was covered. Each training modules was followed through practical lectures and hand-on-job activities for all the trainees and each training modules covers all the important areas required to help the trainees grow in rice seed production technologies and rice-based product development. The training program through an iterative process, formulated various recipes using rice flour as a main ingredient or as a substitute for wheat flour by using various processing methods, most cost effective and labor efficient way was devised to ensure trainees cost benefit.

A. Training Modules: Rice Seed Production technologies

Module 1: Description and importance of quality seed

Contents: [Importance of Seed; Requirement for Rice seed production; Rice Ecology (rice production system); Physical Requirement for Rice seed production; Rice Seed Quality; Benefit in Planting Quality Seed; Characteristics of Poor Seed Quality; Seed Purity; Characteristics of Good Quality Seed; Good Seed handling Environment; Key Steps for Good Seed Production; Factors Affecting Seed Quality; Sources of Seed; Classes of Seed]

Module 2: Seed Health

Contents: [Seed Health; Disease Development; Importance of Seed Health; Seed Health Management – Field; Seed Health Management Post-Harvest; Assessment of Seed Health; Seed Testing; Importance of Seed Test]

Module 3: Developmental Stages in Rice Seed Production

Contents: [Developmental Stages and Basis for Quality seed; Seed Development; Growth Stages; Vegetative Phase; Reproductive Phase; Ripening Phase]

Module 4: *Field Practices in the Production of Quality Seed*

Contents: [Site Selection; Factors for Land Selection; Nursery Bed Establishment; Land Preparation; Transplanting]

Module 5: *Field and Pest Management for Seed Production*

Contents: [Water Management; Benefit of Water Management; Nutrient Management; Weed Management; Pest and Disease Management – Management Options for Rice Insect (Integrated Pest Management)]

Module 6: *Varietal Quality Maintenance and Practice*

Contents: [Varietal Maintenance; Seed Quality Attributes (Physical, Physiological, Genetics); Off-types; Requirements for Seed Certification]

Module 7: *Harvest and Post-Harvest Processes in Seed Production*

Contents: [Harvesting; Factors that Determines Harvesting Processes; Harvesting Methods; Tips for Optimizing Harvesting; Threshing; Steps to undertake during Threshing Exercise; Losses During Threshing; Drying; Seed Drying Methods; Drying Facilities; Cleaning and Winnowing; Cleaning Process]

Module 8: *Rice seed Storage*

Contents: [Purpose of Storage; Pre-conditions for Storage; Storage Systems; Seed Packaging and labelling; Storage hygiene; Seed Deterioration]

B. Training Modules: Rice-Based Product

Module 1: *Overview and general introduction to Rice-Based Product Development*

Contents: Principles and Practice in Product Development; Grain Milling Quality; Rice Flour Quality; Rice-Based Product Management; Post-harvest Processing and Crop Utilization Options. [Rice flour production technique and preparation; types of flour, their use and benefit; production of rice cocktail bits; rice tread, rice chin-chin and basic techniques in extruder operation]

Module 2: *Rice-Based Product Development*

Contents: Principles and practices on the use of post-harvest equipment; Understanding safety precautions; types of equipment and their operations; [production of rice biscuit, rice sweetened ginger biscuit and rice cocoa biscuits]

Module 3: *Rice-Based Product Development*

Contents: Suitability Indices and Choice of Product and Design; Rice-Based Product Handling; Quality Assurance and Food Hygiene; Value-added Product for Food Nutrition. [Principles and practices and production of rice short bread; rice butter cookies and rice coconut biscuit]

Module 4: *Rice-Based Product Development*

Contents: Preservation; Product shelf life; lecture on branding of rice-based products; Market Opportunities. [Production of rice cake, cupcakes; Agribusiness forecast for rice-based products]

Module 5: *Rice-Based Product Development - Preservation*

Contents: Storage; Product shelf life; lecture on branding of rice-based products; Market Opportunities. [Production of rice milk; rice short crust pastry, rice eggrolls, buns and rice pancakes]

Module 6: *Exhibition of Rice-Based Product*

Contents: Exhibition of rice-based product developed and presentation by the trainees, feedback from sponsors and participants; presentation of certificates to the trainees.

Exhibition

At the end of each practical training sessions on rice-based product development, an exhibition of the 14 rice-based products developed by the trainees were displayed and each group representative discuss 2-3 of their products from their practical training taught lessons. This was carried out to ensure that trainees have adequate understanding on rice-based product development as well as a guide to correct mistakes where necessary.

Starter pack distribution

Based on the terms of reference (ToR) and budget, 60 youth trained on rice seed production received starter pack of 50 kg each of the breeder seed and 40 women trained on riced-based product development were empowered with three starter packs (extruder, 6.0 kg gas cylinder and 01 packet of packaging nylon of 100 pieces) to enable them start their business.

Training outputs

Output 1: *Training sessions on rice seed production technologies (module 1 - 8) and rice-based product development (modules 1 - 6) contents for all the trainees practically explained with questions and answers sessions. The capacity of 60 youth developed in rice seed production technologies and 40 women trainees from Ekiti State developed 14 rice-based products from rice flour*

Output 2: *[a] Blueprint for simplified training manual on output 1 & 2 produced and distributed to all trainees; [b] Practical training sessions on rice seed production technologies and rice-based product development was demonstrated, illustrated and summarized to all trainees.*

Outcomes from the training

- A significant proportion (at least 99%) of the trainees in Ekiti State has basic rice seed production technologies and rice-based (post-harvest processing) knowledge for running small to medium-scale rice seed production field and rice-based product business enterprises;
- The trainees can produce high quality seed for farmers in Ekiti State and high-quality flour from rice grain for product development that enhances sales and increased profit;
- All the trainees that participated in the trainings are fully equipped with the technology of profitable and sustainable rice seed producer and rice-based product development and crop utilization options for increasing household income;
- The socioeconomic status of all the youth and women will significantly improve;
- It is a fast-moving business with high turn-over and pricing can be increased to suit the prevailing business environment.
- Reduced post-harvest wastages; new rice-based products on-sale while creating market opportunities.

Table 1: List of trainees on rice seed production technologies

S/N	NAME OF FARMERS	PHONE NUMBER	SEX	AGE (YRS)	LGA
1	AJIBORO IDOWU	8066407786	M	1982	Ijero
2	Osungbekun Bukunmi	7088742496	M	1995	Ijero
3	Ojo Abolarin	9028109011	M	1987	Ijero
4	Adedara Ariyo Emmanuel	8030933622	M	1984	Ijero
5	Bamigboye Seun T.	9031869979	M	1979	Ijero

6	Adeyemi Tunde Godfeather	7032988983	M	1984	Ilejemeje
7	Isola Olakunle	7061319052	M	1985	Ijero
8	GBADAMOSI JAMIU	7032948185	M	1997	Ijero
9	Areola Busayo	7068782400	M	1986	Ekiti West
10	Akinyemi Monday	7032428496	M	1981	Ekiti West
11	Oyewusi Idowu	8161650944	M	1992	Ekiti West
12	Oluwatuyise Josiah	7060673787	M	1979	Ekiti West
13	Ifelola Olubunmi	8036365504	M	1980	Ekiti West
14	Ojo Damilola Ebenezer	7062419871	M	1993	Ido / Osi
15	Afuye Olumide	8066244446	M	1987	Ido/Osi
16	Araoyinbo Oluwafemi	7038907707	M	1979	Ido/Osi
17	Adegoke Rasak	8067088505	M	1981	Ido/Osi
18	Fagbemile Femi Johnson	8147183711	M	1983	Ido/Osi
19	ODESANMI AZEEZ	8037468803	M	1981	Gbonyin
20	Ogunleye O. James	7062901257	M	1980	Gbonyin
21	OLUBODUN AJAYI	9063637399	M	1979	Gbonyin
22	AKILAPA SOLOMON	8132998414	M	1984	Gbonyin
23	OMOYENIKAN OLUWOLE	8061143722	M	1980	Gbonyin
24	Ajilleye Kehinde John	8067615701	M	1980	Irepodun/Ifelodun
25	Lawal Muraina	7062044966	M	1987	Irepodun/Ifelodun
26	Bewaji T. Martins	7039878679	M	1988	Irepodun/Ifelodun
27	Bamisaie Adebayo	8034050671	M	1988	Irepodun/Ifelodun
28	Olowolafe Abiodun	8102325300	M	1984	Irepodun/Ifelodun
29	Oluwatimilehin John	9039137027	M	2002	Oye
30	Aladesiun Lawrence	7031811845	M	1988	Irepodun/Ifelodun
31	Ajayi Folorunso Jacob	8101899057	M	1982	Oye
32	Atanseiye Folorunso	8163677806	M	1984	Oye
33	Agbaje Jimoh D.	8063032544	M	1984	Oye
34	Oluyi Odunayo	8062149837	M	1984	Ikole
35	Osanyinlusi Gbenga	7034942916	M	1986	Ikole
36	Adelabu James	8149193613	M	1986	Ikole
37	Filani Oluwaseun Oladayo	8066352200	M	1980	Ikole
38	Ayelabola Omoniyi	8126886391	M	1979	Ekiti West
39	Ajayi Olabode Amos	7060742436	M	1979	Ekiti West
40	Rotimi Tolulope	8068542236	M	1993	Ado
41	Kehinde Adewale	8161130269	M	1993	Ido/Osi

42	Adegbamigbe Ademola R.	8036986498	M	1982	Ekiti East
43	Akintayo Busuyi	8109214126	M	1986	Ekiti East
44	Emmanuel Oladele	8060272941	M	1981	Ekiti South West
45	Kolawole Olayemi	8160186712	M	2000	Ilejemeje
46	Abegunde Matthew	8038603812	M	1979	Emure
47	Akanle Kayode	8064384070	M	1979	Efon
48	Temidayo Eniolorunda	8038118555	M	1979	Efon
49	Agbenyi Monday	8160686193	M	1989	Efon
50	Ajileye John Toyin	7033317453	M	1987	Irepodun/Ifelodun
51	Fapohunda Oluwarotimi Thomas	8037275418	M	1980	Gbonyin
52	Ogungbemiro Augustine Kayode	8060353374	M	1984	Ido/Osi
53	Bello Azeez	8035160978	M	1984	Ijero
54	Ojo Israel Kayode	8063196990	M	1981	Gbonyin
55	Anjoorin Temitope	8101799992	M	1980	EMURE
56	Kehinde Emmanuel Tope	8145772613	M	1997	Ijero
57	Bamigboye Sunday	08036972343M		1981	Oye
58	Adewole Temitope Mathew	08139607557	M	1983	Oye
59	kolawole David	8134615120	M	1990	Ekiti West
60	Adeyefa Omodele	8038111690	M	1982	Ekiti West

Table 2: List of trainees on rice-based product development component

S/N	NAME OF FARMERS	PHONE NUMBER	SEX	AGE (YRS)	LGA
1	Adebisi Yetunde	8067036596	F	1989	Ijero
2	Ojo Folasade Eunice	7067280202	F	1995	Ijero
3	Boboye Adesola	7036544744	F	1979	Ekiti West
4	Fabiyi Alice Fodayemi	8148484360	F	1979	Ido/Osi
5	Adeosun Bukola	7033936736	F	1980	Ido/Osi
6	Folorunso Oluwatosin	8068773312	F	1991	Ikere
7	Asogbon Mopelola	7034868485	F	1984	Ijero
8	FALODUN TOPE	8064654888	F	1983	Gbonyin
9	Obayomi Funmilayo	7065502390	F	1979	Irepodun/Ifelodun
10	Ogunlana Temidayo	8062301280	F	1979	Irepodun/Ifelodun
11	Ajayi Ayodeji Alice	8160416385	F	1984	Oye

12	Tolulope Moyosore Oginni	8034202575	F	1992	Oye
13	Olubunmi Ibiteye	8038519080	F	1986	Oye
14	Ajimoko Felicia F.	9035158388	F	1980	Oye
15	Kotila Roseline	8062321363	F	1987	Oye
16	Olowolagba Doyin	7035647914	F	1982	Ikole
17	Motunrayo Adeola	8139675839	F	1980	Ikole
18	Olaiya Olayemi	7037543393	F	1983	Ikole
19	Oluwarotimi Mary	7067812329	F	1984	Ekiti West
20	Olorunfemi Titilayo	8066597475	F	1979	Ado
21	Akingbade Muibat	7032988440	F	1988	Ado
22	Pereao Omolola	8063928189	F	1980	Ado
23	Awe Ayodele Christianah	7036602649	F	1984	Ikere
24	Ogunremi Oluwakemi	8024637561	F	1986	Ikere
25	Oladayo Idowu	7064961036	F	1989	Ikere
26	Rotimi Modupeoluwa	7067065806	F	1994	Ekiti East
27	Olorunfemi Funke Rebecca	7067972074	F	1980	Ekiti East
28	Oluwaseyi Bosede	8035252316	F	1980	Ekiti East
29	Adelayo Kehinde Ruth	7061558843	F	1993	Ekiti South West
30	Kehinde Yemisi Rhoda	8062797281	F	1982	Ijero
31	Olorunyomi Oluwatoyosi	8060764806	F	1991	Ekiti East
32	Bamidele Toyin Caroline	8060409192	F	1984	Moba
33	Ariyibi Eunice	7036159910	F	1980	Moba
34	Adeniyi Foluke	7062388607	F	1991	Emure
35	Adeniran Feyisayo	9063460084	F	1985	Efon
36	Olagbuyiro Risikat	8034824178	F	1979	Ekiti West
37	Adeniyi Olabisi Alaba	7033679118	F	1980	Ikole
38	Asaolu Olufunke	8034263116	F	1979	Oye
39	Ajayi Kike	7087251118	F	1992	Ado
40	Ibiyimika Julianah A.	7038077059	F	1982	Moba

Photos of training activities: Rice seed production component



A. Classroom Lectures



B. Hon. Commissioner of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ekiti State, AfricaRice Regional Representative and AfricaRice Admin. Manger



C. Welcome address by AfricaRice Reg. Representative and opening address on behalf of His Excellency, Executive Governor of Ekiti State by the Hon. Commissioner of Agriculture and Rural development, Ekiti State



D. Representatives from the Government of Ekiti State and AfricaRice



E. Classroom Lectures





F. Field practical session – Nursery bed



G. Field practical session – Land preparation and Levelling



H. Field practical session - Transplanting of rice seedling



I. Group photograph of Ekiti State team, AfricaRice, AFPI training facilitators and trainees

Photos of training activities: Rice-Based production and crop utilization option component



A. Facilitator on group discussions with trainees



B. Facilitator demonstration through participatory hand-on-job learning approach



C. Facilitator on group discussions with trainees



D. Trainees on hand-on-job session doing it on their own



E. Trainees showcasing the rice-based product they have developed

Training manuals



F. Training manual on rice seed production technologies and rice-based product distributed



G. Each trainee received their starter pack of 50kg rice seed, extruder, 6.0kg gas cylinder, packaging nylon and certificate

Summary

Rice is a staple food in Nigeria and other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). In recent times, Nigeria has become interested in rice production and this is a step in the right direction as it has led to provision of jobs for youths within the rice value chain and entrepreneurship development. It is expected that within a short time, there would be enough rice grain to diversify its utilization. Beyond the conventional methods of consumption, which is usually boiling or cooking with other condiments, rice can be finely milled into rice flour. Rice flour can be substituted for wheat in the production of gluten-free meals and this is a better option for individuals with gluten intolerance. Gluten intolerance can be identified from childhood especially when children start rejecting snacks made with wheat flour. Of the one hundred (100) trainees, forty women were trained in the production of rice-based products using simple recipes techniques. The training is an empowerment tool for potential entrepreneurs in rice-based product processing options as a base business venture for women and youths, reducing post-harvest losses as well as increasing their social livelihood as well as increasing household income. The recent advancement in crop utilization and development of post-harvest options for rice has made it possible to convert these losses into socio economic opportunities and diversified crop use for profitable and sustainable rice-based product marketing. The rice recipe training will lead to increased rice production, increased demand for rice seed for the production of rice grain, rice flour by confectionery and baking industries leading to significant public and private sector investments. This improvement is expected to push national production to meet demand. The training program on rice recipes, rice-based product development has already created niche for business opportunities for the women in Ekiti State.

Post-harvest losses are a common phenomenon and major constraint facing rice base processing options in Nigeria. Today, broken rice can be converted into rice flour for recipe-based product processing. In its bid to tackle as well as alleviate poverty challenges and create business opportunities for youth and rural women, Ekiti State government in partnership with AfricaRice and Agriculture and Food Production Initiative (AFPI) have trained youths in two key business enterprises (rice seed production technologies and rice-based product development options). The main objectives of the government initiative was enhancing the productivity and profitability of smallholder youth farmers and small/medium-scale agro-processors by improving their capacity to produce quality seed for farmers access, create market opportunities for both rice seed and rice-based product, reduce poverty and enhance sustainable economic growth with specific development objective to increase the household income, enhance food security of households engaged in production; processing and marketing of in the targeted Local Government Areas of the State.

Expected benefits from the training on rice seed production technologies

- Assurance of quality certified seed for the rice farmers in Ekiti State and neighboring communities
- Potential increase in rice farmers' income by increasing yield
- Create business opportunities for the youth as community-based rice seed producer and access to quality certified rice seed by paddy producers
- Create awareness on the use of quality seed within the community

Expected benefits from the training on for rice-based product development

- Potential to increase the rice farmers' income by increasing value
- Rice grain can readily be milled into rice flour and can supply supermarkets and consumption rates of the primary form are high. There is scope for homegrown demand that can increase competitiveness of rice-based products
- Higher digestible protein in rice flour than wheat flour
- Lower calorie content compared with wheat flour
- High fiber content important for young and old aged
- Can possibly save foreign exchange expenditures and create additional market for rice-based product enterprises in Nigeria.

Recommendations

1. With the current closure of Nigeria borders especially for rice importation, huge demand of rice seed will be required for farm expansion. Ekiti State government can take the advantage to further increase the number of youths within the States as seed producers
2. The government can further support the youth to acquire loan for mechanization (power tiller, threshers, reapers etc)
3. It is expected that the government of Ekiti State to further monitor the activities of the youth seed entrepreneurs and rice-based producers to see that their business thrives.

Closing

The training program end at 14:00 hours for the two-key enterprise (rice seed production technologies and rice-based product development option and crop utilization) after the presentation of the closing remark of His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Ekiti State, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, by Engr. S.O. Ilesanmi, Technical Adviser on agriculture, Ekiti State. Present at the closing workshop were Mr. Yakubu Oladele T., Program manager, Ekiti State ADP, Omole Rotimi Johnson, Desk Officer, Rice and Mr. Yomi Ogunrinde, PRO, Ekiti State.

Conclusion

A total of 100 youth and women trainees from Ekiti State were trained. Sixty youth were trained in rice seed production technologies and forty women trained in rice-based product processing for commercialization and income generation. The sixty trainees received certificate as seed entrepreneurs and forty trainees received certificate as rice-based product development entrepreneurs according to their training specialization at the end of the training workshop. It is expected that Ekiti

State government give further technical support to the trainees to ensure sustainability as well as increase the number of trainees in the future.