

Establishing cassava as an agro-industrial crop through the scaling-out of proven technologies and innovations for the production, processing, and marketing of value-added products in Africa

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Abstract: Cassava *Manihot esculenta* Crantz is an important source of calories in the tropics. The crop remains one of the most consumed food crops in Africa. While Africa dominates global cassava production, the yields remain well below the world average owing to many factors such as disease pandemic, the low adoption of available technologies. TAAT Cassava Compact seeks to scale-out proven technologies and innovations that raise farm-level productivity, improve the efficiency of processing, increase market opportunity for the smallholders, and catalyze private-sector investments. The Compact works with national institutions responsible for technology development and dissemination, NGOs and other partners to introduce to farmers high yielding, disease tolerant, and nutritious biofortified varieties integrated soil fertility management approaches, and innovative approaches for mechanized production and weed control to derive the productivity increases that benefit the smallholders technologies for the processing of cassava-based industrial raw materials such as starch and novel food products bread, strips, biscuits, etc, including the processing of cassava waste into quality animal feed ingredients. The ultimate goals are to improve food and nutrition security, reduce rural household poverty and improve livelihoods in Africa. TAAT - Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation