

Piloting the Gender Transformative Group and Community Dialogue Sessions with JDPC-led Cassava Groups

CAPACITY BUILDING AND BASELINE ASSESSMENT

Training of Trainers (ToT)

The fieldwork commenced with an intensive five-day Training of Trainers (ToT) seminar conducted from **7th to 11th July 2025** at the JDPC Ibadan Office. This capacity-building exercise was designed to equip field implementing officers with advanced facilitation methodologies. The core curriculum covered Gender Transformative Approaches (GTAs), community dialogue facilitation, rights-based advocacy guidelines, and Good Agronomic Practices (GAP). This foundational step ensured absolute alignment with project manuals and established uniform standards for field delivery.

Outcome:

- 15 JDPC Ibadan Staff received the training
- The members of Staff capacity was strengthened through the training techniques

GENDER TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACHES (GTAs)

Structured Household Dialogues

Concurrently with technical farming support, the project facilitated structured Gender Transformative Approaches (GTA) sessions. Leveraging Eleven (11) existing mixed farmers group with dedicated learning modules starting from norms 1: **It is inappropriate for women to own agricultural land and other productive assets**. These dialogues introduced fundamental concepts of biological sex versus socio-cultural gender roles. As trust and engagement deepened, the curriculum advanced into complex social structures, analyzing household power dynamics, gender positioning within the commercial cassava value chain, and the structural barriers surrounding resource ownership.

Outcome:

- Total Numbers of Treatment Groups – 11
- Total number of 530 farmers received training on GTA

Institutional and Household Behavioral Changes

The dialogic process yielded profound adjustments in household relations and individual behavior, bringing visible changes to family and community structures:

- **Shared Decision-Making:** Husbands actively moved toward collaborative household planning, routinely including their spouses in agricultural budget design, financial planning, and production choices.
- **Labor Distribution:** Male participants publicly acknowledged shifting their domestic behavior, voluntarily sharing household chores and co-operating in rigorous field tasks.
- **Asset Accessibility:** Multiple male participants committed to providing their wives with secure, unhindered access to arable land, thereby dismantling long-standing socio-cultural restrictions.

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE SESSIONS

Engagement with Traditional and Social Leadership

To ensure community-wide adoption and institutionalize these behavioral shifts, strategic community dialogues were conducted across Ibarapa East and Ibarapa Central. These engagements targeted influential traditional rulers, youth leaders, and socio-cultural opinion leaders. The discussions focused on removing historical barriers to female land inheritance and asset control, such as restrictive cultural practices, systemic insecurity, and arbitrary domestic consent requirements. The stakeholders received four (4) trainings sessions.

Traditional authorities provided crucial systemic guidance, clarifying that clear, standardized community procedures and proper legal documentation exist to guarantee secure land access for women. The leadership expressed significant appreciation for the project's educational focus and officially pledged to foster inclusive asset allocation within their domains.

Outcome:

The traditional leaders and other relevant stakeholders received trainings on; The Concepts of Sex, Gender, Gender Bias and Norm; Gender and power dynamics in the community and influence on women's land and asset ownership and Situation analysis on gender issues, women's land and assets ownership in the community and [Resource Control and Decision-Making](#)

- Total of 100 Stakeholders (62 Male and 38 Female) received the trainings
- The stakeholders' capacity were built on the aforementioned trainings.
- They exhibit the readiness towards giving access to women's land and assets ownership in the community and [Resource Control and Decision-Making](#)

Conclusion and Sustainability Outlook

The implementation of the Gender Norms Transformative Project by JDPC Ibadan establishes a highly successful model for modern agricultural development. By treating agricultural optimization and gender equity as deeply interconnected goals, the intervention has delivered significant improvements in both technical intervention and approaches.