

# Golden cassava: Vitamin A fortified cassava varieties

Yellow-fleshed cassava rich in vitamin A



Yellow-fleshed cassava is a vitamin A-enriched variety. The variety is the result of the cross-breeding of natural lines containing high levels of provitamin A and hybrid lines with higher yield potential disease resistance and drought tolerance.

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This technology is **TAAT1 validated**.
 Scaling readiness: idea maturity 7/9; level of use 6/9

**Project adoption**  
The technology has been integrated into the **ENSURE project** in East Africa and the **PADCY-PTA project** in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Inclusion assessment 
 Climate impact

Technology from  
**ProPAS**

Commodities  
Cassava

Sustainable Development Goals

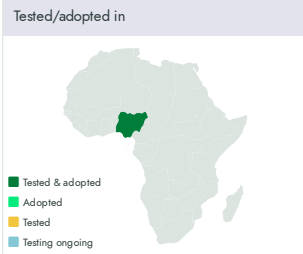
Categories  
Production, Improved varieties, Yield improvement, Quality improvement

### Problem

- Lack of essential nutrients in conventional cassava varieties, notably vitamin A deficiency affecting 50% of children.
- Insufficient vitamin A leading to preventable blindness and weakened immune systems in children.
- Limited nutritional value and agronomic challenges, such as disease susceptibility and low yield potential.

### Solution

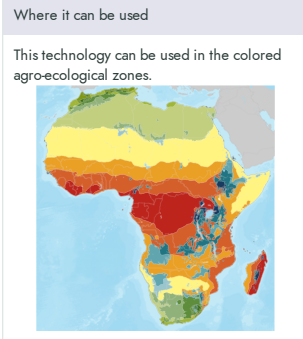
- Golden cassava varieties are enriched with provitamin A, addressing vitamin A deficiency and hidden hunger.
- Through breeding, golden cassava exhibits enhanced traits like disease resistance and drought tolerance.
- These varieties contain 2 to 3 times more provitamin A, meeting nutritional needs in cassava-dependent communities.
- Golden cassava suits various agro-ecosystems, enhancing its reach.



### Key points to design your program

Golden cassava varieties are vitamin A-enriched, yellow-fleshed cassava developed to address malnutrition while increasing yields. With high productivity, disease resistance, and drought tolerance, they are ideal for regions facing climate challenges.

- Aligned with SDG 2, SDG 3, and SDG 13, they enhance food security, promote better health, and support climate-resilient farming.
- Part of the Cassava Technology Toolkit, they complement innovations like mechanized planting to maximize farmer productivity.
- Already introduced in seven African countries through the ENSURE project, golden cassava is driving improved nutrition, sustainable farming, and increased farmer incomes with support from IITA.



Target groups  
Farmers, Seed companies

IP  
 Open source / open access

