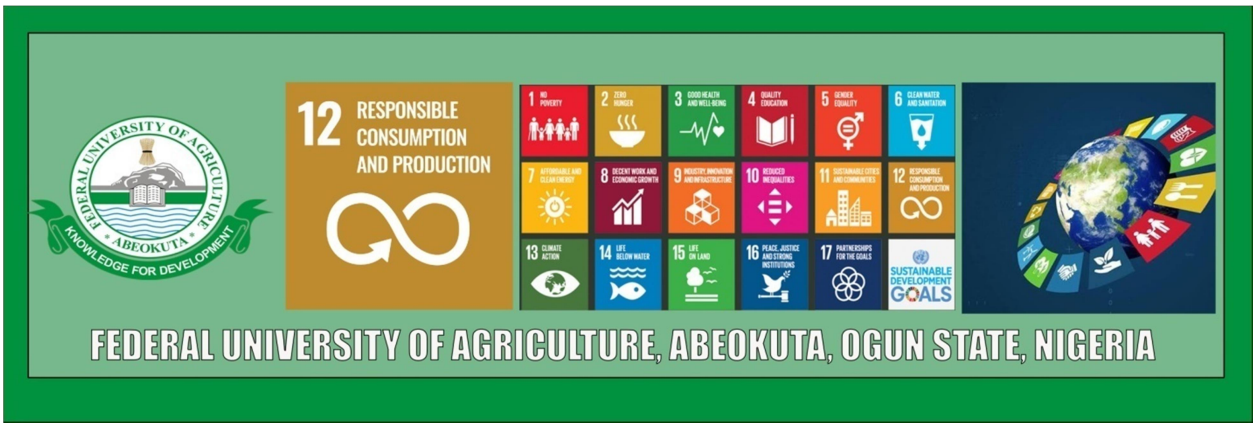
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A - 2025/26 FUNAAB SDG12 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

PREAMBLE

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) is committed to achieving Sustainable Development Goal - SDG12 “Resposible Consumption and Production”.

This involves strengthening waste management systems, encouraging recycling, reduction and recovery of waste, helping promote a circular economy. It helps teaming up with consumers, businesses, academia and NGOs to learn from each other and create a strong voice advocating for sustainable procurement.

SDG 12 provides individuals with the knowledge, tools and infrastructure to choose products and services with a lower resource. It encourages short supply chains to help reduce transport and carbon emissions, increase transparency along the supply chain and encourage the participation of SMEs.

FUNAAB promotes responsible consumption and production by encouraging balanced and value-added food consumption, addressing global hidden hunger. Micronutrients lacking in the body are advised by the College of Food Science and Human Ecology (COLFHEC) as well as Funaab Integrated Ventures (FIV).

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Published On: March 11, 2026
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1. DUFARMS Launches Value-Added Products, Records Bumper Sales



Published On: March 9, 2026
Last Updated on March 9, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Olasunkanmi Olajide, Femi Dansu & Tayo Onayemi

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) has expanded its agribusiness portfolio with the official launch of value-added food products under the Directorate of University Farms (DUFARMS), recording impressive sales at the event.



Ag. Director, DUFARMS, Dr. Emmanuel Bankole awaiting the arrival of the Vice-Chancellor at the launch

The initiative, unveiled today, March 4, 2026, at the DUFARMS AGROMAT, marks the University's strategic transition from primary agricultural production to processing and value addition, aligning with global trends in agribusiness sustainability and food systems development.



Declaring the sales open, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, commended DUFARMS for advancing beyond raw produce to processed and branded food products.



"DUFARMS has long been known for quality farm produce. Today, we are consolidating that reputation by adding value, enhancing shelf life, and meeting evolving consumer preferences," he said. He emphasised the importance of food preservation and local processing, particularly in enhancing food security and minimising post-harvest losses. The product line also included

traditional Nigerian staples, such as original elubọ iṣu and lẹbu, among others, catering to both domestic consumers and diaspora markets interested in authentic traditional cuisine.



Earlier, the Ag. Director of DUFARMS, Dr. Emmanuel Bankole, noted that the expansion was driven by rising consumer demand and the need to reinforce trust in locally processed foods. Newly introduced products included Certified Yellow Flour, professionally packaged melon seeds, Vitamin A–fortified yellow garri, water yam, fresh pineapples, and other farm-fresh produce.



According to Dr. Bankole, all items have undergone strict quality control procedures and were clearly labelled to guarantee safety, authenticity, and nutritional integrity.

The launch attracted strong stakeholder participation, including industry representatives and University officials, like the Director, Directorate of Technologists and Technical Staff (DITTECS), Dr Wunmi Abimbola-Okuneye; Prof. Kayode Bamgbose; President, FUNAAB

Odeda-Farmers' Cooperative Multipurpose Society Limited, Mr. Ayorinde Isaiah and the Managing Director, Nourished Foods Ltd, Mr. Olabode Orolu, among others.



Meanwhile the launch recorded robust sales, an indication of growing market confidence in the University's agribusiness model.

2. FUNAAB Researcher Unveils Cost-Effective, Healthier Fish Feed Alternative



Published On: February 27, 2026
Last Updated on March 3, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Femi Dansu

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) has recorded another major research breakthrough with the unveiling of an innovative, cost-effective and sustainable fish feed alternative that promises to transform aquaculture production.

The study, presented at the February Monthly Seminar of the Institute of Food Security, Environmental Resources and Agricultural Research (IFSERAR), revealed that the partial replacement of conventional fishmeal with probiotic-fortified insect larvae significantly improves fish health while reducing feed costs.

Delivering the presentation, Dr. Nathaniel Bamidele, Programme Coordinator, Aquaculture and Fisheries Research Programme at IFSERAR, explained that the research was designed to tackle one of the most pressing challenges in global aquaculture, the high cost of feed. According to him, feed accounts for between 60 and 70 percent of total production expenses, with fishmeal alone constituting a substantial proportion of feed ingredient costs.

Dr. Bamidele noted that with declining wild fish stocks caused by pollution, climate change and overfishing, aquaculture must meet the protein needs of a rapidly growing global population projected to reach 9 billion by 2050. However, rising feed costs continue to limit the profitability and expansion of fish farming.

To address this, the research investigated the use of Black Soldier Fly Larvae Meal (BSFLM), derived from *Hermetia illucens* , as a sustainable substitute for fishmeal in the diet of *Oreochromis niloticus* (Nile tilapia), one of the world's most widely cultivated freshwater fish species. The insect larvae were reared at FUNAAB, while feeding trials were conducted at the University's Hatchery Unit in Abeokuta, Ogun State.



Director, IFSERAR, Prof. Kazeem Bello with the Chairman of the occasion, Prof. Wilfred Alegbeleye and some senior staff members of the Institute after the presentation

Five experimental diets containing approximately 35 per cent crude protein were formulated, replacing fishmeal with BSFLM at graded inclusion levels of 0, 25, 50, 75 and 100 percent. The feeds were pelleted, air-dried and properly stored. To address potential digestive challenges associated with high insect meal inclusion, particularly due to chitin content, probiotics were incorporated to enhance digestion, improve gut structure and promote a balanced intestinal microbiota.

Findings from the study showed that probiotic-fortified BSFLM improved fish carcass quality without adversely affecting blood parameters. Optimal growth performance and feed utilisation were achieved when 50 per cent of fishmeal was replaced with the fortified insect meal. Importantly, probiotic supplementation helped mitigate intestinal stress linked to moderate insect meal inclusion.

Describing the innovation as both economically viable and environmentally sustainable, Dr. Bamidele stated that probiotic-fortified insect protein could sustainably replace up to 50 percent of fishmeal in Nile tilapia diets without compromising fish health or productivity. He emphasised

that the development holds significant potential for reducing production costs and improving profitability for fish farmers.

The researcher recommended further long-term studies to support large-scale commercial adoption of probiotic insect-based aquafeeds.

The seminar was attended by the Director of IFSERAR, Prof. Kazeem Bello; the Chairman of the occasion, Prof. Wilfred Alegbeleye; and other distinguished academic staff, including Prof. Victor Olowe and Prof. John Oyedepo, among others.

3. AGRECOFARM Begins 3-Day Vocational Training on Agroecology, Sustainable Food Production

4.



Published On: February 25, 2026
Last Updated on March 2, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Joy Adeyiga & Raymond Osemene

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), through its AGRECOFARM, has commenced a 3-Day vocational education training workshop on agroecology and sustainable food production. The programme, which brought together farmers, students, extension agents, agribusiness operators and other stakeholders across the agricultural value chain, began today, Wednesday, February 25, 2026.

Delivering the Opening Remarks, the Team Lead of AGRECOFARM FUNAAB, Prof. Adewale Dipeolu, represented by Prof. Oladapo Fasae, described the initiative as a carefully structured platform designed to address pressing challenges in education, financial empowerment, and community development. He noted that beyond learning from facilitators, participants would also benefit from peer-to-peer engagement through interaction, demonstrations and shared experiences throughout the 3-Day programme.



Director, CEADESE, Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu addressing the participants of the workshop

Prof. Dipeolu emphasised that sustainable progress can only be achieved when opportunities, resources and financial support are equitably distributed across society. According to him, meaningful transformation occurs when support systems are strengthened and individuals are equipped with the necessary tools to succeed.

In his remarks, the Director of the, Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu, reiterated the need for innovative and knowledge-driven approaches to farming, particularly in the face of rising global food demand. He stressed that modern agriculture requires more than traditional practices, highlighting efficient water usage, soil rejuvenation and sustainable land management as critical components of productive farming systems.



The AGRECOFARM Programme Coordinator, Dr. Folasade Oke delivering her Welcome Address at the workshop

Prof. Fafiolu further explained that whereas land reclamation previously took up to 15 years before degraded land could become suitable for cultivation, recent research breakthroughs and emerging technologies have reduced the process to as little as one year. He restated that efficiency in irrigation, soil regeneration and overall resource management remains essential for maximising productivity while safeguarding the environment.

Earlier in her Welcome Address, the Programme Coordinator, Agroecology FUNAAB, Dr. Folashade Oke, expressed delight at the impressive turnout and diversity of participants. She noted that the training, organised under the AGRECOFARM initiative and hosted by CEADESE, attracted smallholder and large-scale farmers, youths, women, students and farm service providers.



Participants and Facilitators after the Opening Ceremony of the 3-Day Vocational Training Workshop

According to Dr. Oke, the programme reflected FUNAAB's commitment not only to teaching and research but also to translating knowledge into practical skills that enhance livelihoods, strengthen food security and promote environmental sustainability.

She revealed that the workshop was deliberately structured to be 80 per cent practical, enabling participants to engage in hands-on sessions covering sustainable land preparation, soil testing, greenhouse and hydroponic crop production, product processing, feed pellet production and farm record keeping.

Dr. Oke added that the initiative represented a shared commitment to advancing sustainable agriculture, livestock production and innovative farming solutions that directly address the needs of farmers and agribusinesses across the country.

5. FUNAAB Set to Partner AltBank, Tulima on AI-Enabled Hydroponic Farming Campus Project



Published On: February 24, 2026
Last Updated on February 26, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Olasunkanmi Olajide

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has further strengthened its reputation as a leading African hub for global agricultural innovation as it advanced high-level discussions with Sterling Financial Holdings Company Plc ('Sterling HoldCo') and Egypt-based Tulima Farms and Agri-Processing LLC on the establishment of an AI-enabled hydroponic farming ecosystem on campus.

The initiative, spearheaded by Sterling HoldCo's subsidiary, The Alternative Bank ('AltBank'), is conceived as a commercially viable, technology-driven agricultural venture integrating Artificial Intelligence with precision hydroponic systems to cultivate select exotic vegetables and staple crops under climate-controlled conditions. Designed to operate at scale, the project reflects a new generation of smart farming models that combine finance, innovation, and research expertise.

Abeokuta has been identified as a high-potential investment destination, with FUNAAB recognised as a strategic anchor institution due to its robust agricultural research ecosystem, expansive farmlands, innovation-driven centres, and access to highly skilled human capital. The University's longstanding leadership in agricultural science, enterprise development, and sustainable farming solutions places it at the forefront of Africa's transition towards technology-enabled agriculture.

Welcoming the delegation, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, affirmed the University's readiness to host and drive the partnership, emphasising that FUNAAB possesses the institutional capacity, technical depth, and enabling infrastructure required to successfully

launch and sustain the project. He reiterated the University's commitment to fostering impactful industry collaborations capable of delivering measurable economic and developmental outcomes.

The proposed AI-enabled hydroponic initiative is in sync with broader efforts to strengthen food systems through import substitution, year-round productivity, and enhanced climate resilience. By leveraging data-driven nutrient management, optimised water use, and controlled-environment agriculture, the project aims to ensure consistent high yields while minimising resource waste. Beyond boosting domestic food production, the initiative is expected to contribute significantly to agribusiness growth, job creation, and economic diversification, while serving as a scalable model for smart agriculture across the African continent.

As part of the technical and commercial due diligence process, the joint team undertook site inspections within the University to assess infrastructure availability, climatic suitability, and preliminary water and soil nutrient profiling.

The engagement provided an opportunity to review identified locations, align operational expectations, and advance discussions towards a structured and mutually beneficial partnership framework.

Mrs. Ugonwa Ikegwuonu, Head of Agric Finance at The Alternative Bank led the delegation and provided strategic insights into the rationale behind the project. Mr. Mohamed Salama, Founder/CEO, Tulima Farms, Cairo, Egypt delivered a comprehensive technical presentation outlining the production model, investment structure, operational framework, and proposed risk-sharing architecture. He underscored the importance of constituting a cross-functional University team comprising experts in agriculture, engineering, research, infrastructure, and enterprise development to deepen technical collaboration and accelerate implementation.

Meanwhile, Tulima Farms and Agri-Processing LLC is internationally reputed for its sustainable, high-tech indoor farming systems, utilising climate-controlled greenhouses and modular container farms to produce pesticide-free, nutrient-dense crops within an integrated farm-to-table value chain. The delegation's tour of FUNAAB's Automated Greenhouse facility, Musarchy Farms, and the Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE) experiential farms further demonstrated the University's preparedness to host advanced agricultural technologies and scale commercially viable agribusiness ventures.

Senior University officials present at the meeting included the Registrar, Dr. Titus Adeniyi; the Bursar, Mr. Olukayode Osinuga; the Director, CEADESE, Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu; the Acting Director, Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Dr. Oluwagbemiga Adeleye; the Principal Assistant Registrar, Vice-Chancellor's Office, Mr. Adekunle Adebiyi, and the University Legal Officer, Mrs. Olanrewaju Tanimowo. They were joined by Dr. Hatem Elmedalaa, the resident Agronomy Consultant in Tulima Farms, among others.

With this prospective partnership, FUNAAB is reinforcing its global outlook and strategic commitment to integrating finance, research excellence, and emerging technologies in building resilient and sustainable food systems for Africa and beyond.


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6. FUNAAB Odeda Farmers Cooperative Receives Federal Empowerment



Published On: February 23, 2026
Last Updated on February 25, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

The FUNAAB Odeda Farmers Cooperative Multipurpose Society Limited has received empowerment support from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FMAFS) to enhance agricultural productivity and strengthen the capacity of its members.

Items presented to the Cooperative include a power tiller, water pump, knapsack sprayers, fertilizer, pepper and tomato seeds, a grinding machine, planter, Ultimate Plus, insecticides, and fungicide.

While receiving the items, the President of the Cooperative, Mr. Ayorinde Isaiah, expressed appreciation to FMAFS for the support, noting that the equipment would be judiciously utilised to boost food production and improve members' livelihoods.

The intervention is expected to strengthen mechanised farming operations and significantly improve crop yield among members of the Cooperative.

7. FUNAAB Zoo Park Set for Elephant Arrival, Unveils New Exotic Additions



Published On: February 14, 2026
Last Updated on February 17, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

As a leading University of Agriculture in Africa, the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has continued to translate knowledge into real-world experiences, where conservation, research, and experiential learning converge. In a bold stride that reinforces its pride in wildlife management and eco-tourism, the FUNAAB Zoo Park has completed a state-of-the-art elephant enclosure, signalling a new chapter in its ambitious revitalisation drive as it prepares to receive an elephant, set to become the Zoo's most iconic resident and a powerful symbol of its expanding vision.

Further strengthening its collection, the Zoo has also unveiled three new exotic animal species, marking a significant expansion of its wildlife inventory. The development underscores FUNAAB's strategic commitment to biodiversity conservation, hands-on training for students, and the adoption of global best practices in zoological management.

In this exclusive interview with *Olasunkanmi Olajide and Emeka Oluka of FUNAAB Bulletin*, the Zoo Park Director, Prof. Olufemi Sammy Sam-Wobo, shares insights into the new acquisitions, the inspiration behind the expansion, and the Zoo's preparedness to host its most anticipated addition.



The peafowls

Interview

FUNAAB Bulletin: Sir, the University Community has heard about new additions to the Zoo. Can you tell us what has changed?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: Yes, indeed. At the beginning of this month, we acquired three new exotic species: a breeding pair of Giant Desert Tortoises, a male and female Peafowl (commonly known as a peacock and pea-hen), and a male Civet cat. All the animals have undergone a thorough veterinary examination by our medical officer and are in excellent health.

FUNAAB Bulletin: What informed the decision to bring in these particular species?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: Visitors' feedback played a major role. Before I assumed office, tourists often complained about seeing the same animals repeatedly. We listened carefully. These new additions are part of our commitment to increasing variety and enhancing visitor experience. For instance, many people have only seen the Giant Desert Tortoise in pictures; now they can see one in real life. These species would certainly boost the Zoo's tourist appeal.



The civet cat

FUNAAB Bulletin: Were there institutional supports that made these acquisitions possible?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: Absolutely. We are grateful to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, the University Community, and the vendors who provided the animals at significantly reduced costs. The Management has been very supportive of our revitalisation agenda.

FUNAAB Bulletin: There are also reports about an elephant enclosure. What is the current status?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: I am pleased to confirm that the elephant enclosure is fully ready. This is a major milestone for us. We have written to the donors, and the Vice-Chancellor and his Management Team committed the necessary resources to ensure the facility meets required standards. As I speak with you, the enclosure is ready and waiting to receive the elephant.

FUNAAB Bulletin: Can you share when the elephant is expected to arrive?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: While I cannot give a specific date due to logistics, I can assure you that everything on our end is set. The facility is ready for pickup arrangements. By the grace of God, before I celebrate my second anniversary in office as Director, the elephant will be here.



Completed state-of-the-art elephant enclosure

FUNAAB Bulletin: What should the University Community and the public expect going forward?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: They should expect growth, improved biodiversity, and a stronger conservation footprint. These new acquisitions and the anticipated elephant, would significantly increase visitor turnout, enhance our educational value, and strengthen our role in wildlife conservation. We are positioning the FUNAAB Zoo Park as a leading destination for unique and diverse species in South-West Nigeria.

With these strategic additions and ambitious plans, the FUNAAB Zoo Park is steadily transforming into a premier hub for conservation, research, recreation, and environmental education.

8. FUNAAB Scholars Secure Patent for Eco-Friendly Nano-Pesticide Innovation



Published On: February 10, 2026
Last Updated on February 13, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Raymond Osemene

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has recorded another landmark achievement in agricultural research and innovation, as a team of its scholars secured a patent for an environmentally friendly nano-pesticide designed to address the challenges associated with conventional chemical pesticides. The innovation, branded Tripleshield Agro, received patent approval recently.

Speaking at the product presentation ceremony today, February 10, 2026, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, lauded the research team, led by Prof. Akinola Popoola, for the remarkable feat. He underscored the critical importance of intellectual property protection, advising researchers to exercise caution when disclosing technical details publicly and to avoid premature agreements that could jeopardise ownership rights or future commercialisation prospects.



The Vice-Chancellor further assured the team of the University's commitment to supporting large-scale field trials, farmer engagement initiatives, and the eventual commercialisation of the product. He emphasised the need to safeguard proprietary knowledge while fostering collaboration through well-structured and mutually beneficial partnerships.

During the formal presentation to Management, the Research Team Lead explained that the product was developed in response to growing concerns among farmers regarding the adverse effects of chemical pesticides. He noted that indiscriminate increases in pesticide concentrations, often without expert guidance, have resulted in environmental pollution, health complications such as skin irritation and vomiting, and, in severe cases, contamination of water sources.

According to him, the nano-pesticide leverages nanotechnology to deliver active ingredients directly to target organisms, including fungi, bacteria, and insects. This precision-targeted approach significantly reduces wastage and enhances effectiveness compared to conventional broadcast pesticide application methods.

Prof. Popoola further highlighted that the product was developed using green synthesis techniques to ensure environmentally safe production. The team worked primarily with neem-based materials while deliberately minimising the use of potentially harmful substances, including silver nanoparticles, to reduce ecological risks.



A major highlight of the event was the formal presentation of the Certificate of Registration of Patent to the Vice-Chancellor.

Dignitaries present at the ceremony included the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo; Dean, College of Plant Science and Crop Production (COLPLANT), Prof. Bolarinwa Senjobi; and the Ag. Director, Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Dr. Oluwagbemiga Adeleye. Other attendees were members of the research team, Dr. Caroline Filani and Dr. Chioma Adekunle.

Meanwhile, the team distinguished itself nationally by emerging among the top three institutions with the best pitch decks at the 2025 closing ceremony of the TETFund TETFAIRINNOV8 Programme.

9. FUNAAB, TAGDEV 2.0 Conclude 2-Day Agricultural Capacity Training Workshop



Published On: December 22, 2025
Last Updated on October 9, 2026 by admin

... Train over 400 Participants on Wealth Potential in Farm Waste

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), in collaboration with the TAGDEV 2.0 Programme of the University of Port Harcourt and with support from the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) and the Mastercard Foundation, has concluded a two-day Agricultural Capacity Training Workshop aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture and value addition.



According to the Ag. Head, Directorate of Public Relations, FUNAAB, Mr. Olasunkanmi Olajide, the workshop, which ended today, December 22, 2025, trained over 400 participants and equipped them with practical skills and knowledge in climate-smart agriculture, sustainable production practices and innovative value-chain development capable of improving livelihoods, enhancing food security and driving inclusive development.



Mr. Olajide explained that the training featured expert-led sessions on wealth creation from farm waste, improved rice storage and processing, sustainable lowland rice production and climate change mitigation strategies, all tailored to address contemporary challenges in Nigeria's agricultural sector.



Delivering a presentation on "Opportunities and Prospects of Wealth Creation from Farm Waste," Dr. Risikat Akinbode encouraged participants to view agricultural waste as a valuable economic resource rather than refuse, identifying crop residues, livestock waste and fish-processing by-products as viable materials for income generation, job creation and environmental sustainability.



She identified wastes from crop production, livestock rearing and fish processing, such as rice straw, maize stover, cassava leaves, poultry droppings, cow dung and fish remnants, as largely underutilised materials that are often burnt or discarded, leading to pollution and economic losses.



Citing national statistics, Dr. Akinbode noted that over 40.2 million Nigerian households depend on agriculture, generating huge volumes of farm waste with significant wealth-creation potential. She outlined opportunities in animal feed production, organic fertiliser, briquettes and biochar, encouraging participants to assess locally available resources, adopt suitable value-addition models and begin on a small scale with expansion plans. She stressed that farm waste, particularly within rice–fish value chains, remains an untapped asset for income, sustainability and employment.



In her presentation on rice storage and processing for improved market patronage, the Ag. Head, Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, College of Food Science and Human Ecology (COLFHEC), Dr. Oluwafunke Akinbule, highlighted the substantial nutrient losses associated with conventional rice milling methods. She emphasised the need for improved milling and parboiling techniques to enhance the nutritional quality of locally produced rice, especially Ofada rice.



Dr. Akinbule explained that conventional milling removes about 84–85 percent of the rice grain by stripping off the bran and aleurone layers, which constitute roughly 13 per cent of the grain and are rich in essential nutrients such as vitamins B1 and B2, phosphorus, fibre and moderate fat. She warned that such losses expose consumers who rely heavily on rice to nutrient deficiencies. To address this, she advocated under-milling, production of unpolished rice, effective parboiling techniques and rice fortification using premixed multivitamins and iron pyrophosphate coatings that withstand washing, cooking and storage.



Speaking on sustainable lowland rice production, Dr. Paul Soremi underscored the importance of diversification and climate-smart agriculture, cautioning that monoculture systems contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, declining yields and nutritional deficiencies. Drawing from global

research, he noted that integrated farming systems, particularly rice–fish farming, could increase yields by up to 20 per cent through reduced production costs, natural weed control and improved soil fertility, while also promoting biodiversity and reducing reliance on chemical inputs.



On climate change mitigation, Dr. Soremi explained that integrated systems help reduce methane emissions from prolonged flooding and nitrous oxide emissions from excessive use of inorganic fertilisers. He described climate-smart agriculture as an approach that enhances productivity, builds resilience and lowers emissions, built on four pillars that are economic viability, environmental sustainability, food safety and quality, and social acceptability, adapted to local ecological and socioeconomic realities.



Speaking on the sidelines of the workshop, Miss Ajayi Temitope, a 400-level Microbiology student, and Mr. Olaoluwa Ogbeta, a 500-level student of Animal Production and Health, both differently abled persons, described the training as highly educative and impactful, pledging to apply the knowledge gained to their academic and professional pursuits.



Earlier, on Day One of the workshop, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, reaffirmed FUNAAB's commitment to advancing sustainable agriculture, food security and inclusive capacity development. He described the TAGDEV 2.0 initiative as fully aligned with the University's mandate of Teaching, Research and Community Development, noting that FUNAAB was keen to participate both as a receiving and sending University. He also highlighted the initiative's scholarship opportunities for undergraduate, Master's and PhD students across Africa.



The Vice-Chancellor commended the project partners for their vision and charged participants to maximise the training, stressing that good agricultural practices would enhance productivity, improve livelihoods and strengthen resilient food systems.



Dignitaries at the workshop included the Provost, Federal College of Agriculture, Ibadan (FCAIB), Prof. Jonathan Atungwu; Dean, College of Plant Science and Crop Production (COLPLANT), Prof. Bolarinwa Senjobi, who represented the Vice-Chancellor on the 2nd day; the Director, Agricultural Media Resources and Extension Centre (AMREC), Prof. Jacob Olaoye; farmers from across Ogun State; commercial livestock keepers; and students from various Colleges, all of whom participated in practical sessions on converting agricultural waste into profitable ventures.

10. FUNAAB, NSPRI Host Workshop on Reducing Post-Harvest Losses



Published On: December 18, 2025
Last Updated on December 23, 2025 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Femi Dansu

In furtherance of their ongoing collaboration, the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), through its Agricultural Media Resources and Extension Centre (AMREC), has partnered with the Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute (NSPRI) to host a One-Day Capacity-Building Workshop on post-harvest losses management.



Director, AMREC, Prof. Jacob Olaoye delivering his Welcome Address at the One-Day Capacity Training Workshop

Titled "Handling Post-Harvest Losses of Tomato and Leafy Vegetables," the workshop was held today, December 18, 2025, at the AMREC Seminar Room. It was designed to address Nigeria's persistent post-harvest challenges by equipping farmers and other stakeholders with practical skills in handling, processing, storage and value addition to reduce wastage and enhance profitability.



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olusegun Idowu delivering his Goodwill Message at the Workshop

Opening the workshop on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo, commended the impressive turnout of participants, describing it as a reflection of shared commitment to strengthening Nigeria's agricultural value chain. He noted that agriculture remains central to the nation's economy, yet poor post-harvest practices account for losses of between 30 and 50 per cent in perishable crops such as tomatoes and leafy vegetables, largely due to inadequate handling, storage, transportation and limited processing.



Participants at the Workshop

He described the workshop as timely and urged participants to actively engage through questions, experience sharing and collaborative learning to ensure the adoption of practical and sustainable solutions.



Participants, Facilitators and Frontline Officers of the University after the Opening Session of the AMREC's One-Day Capacity Training Workshop

In his Welcome Address, the Director, AMREC, Prof. Jacob Olaoye, described the programme as a significant milestone in FUNAAB's contributions to food security and sustainable development, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He emphasised the focus on affordable and scalable techniques for waste prevention, value addition and improved produce quality and nutrition, while commending the University Management for its continued support.



Delivering a Goodwill Message, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, commended the initiative for effectively bridging research with practical, on-the-ground solutions that reduce post-harvest losses and improve farmers' incomes.



The Keynote Address, titled "Agricultural Post-Harvest Management," was delivered by the Zonal Coordinator, NSPRI Ibadan Office, Dr. Mariam Aremu, on behalf of the NSPRI Executive Director, Prof. Lateef Sanni. She discussed crop categorisation, handling, transportation, primary processing, drying technologies and storage, stressing the need to prioritise post-harvest practices to ensure food quality and safety, improve returns, reduce losses, enhance year-round availability and promote wealth creation.



Dr. Aremu also led practical demonstrations on the production of dried leafy vegetables, onion rings and powder, dried okra, and tomato-based value-added products. She highlighted value addition as a viable agribusiness opportunity, especially for youth and women, and underscored the importance of cost-benefit analysis in making informed agribusiness decisions.

Participants at the workshop included AMREC and some Academic staff of the University, members of Farmers' Associations from Ogun State, and other key stakeholders in the agricultural value chain.

11. Pro-Chancellor Applauds Alumni as He Commissions Two Refurbished Buses to Enhance Revenue



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By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Tofunmi Adebayo

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman, Governing Council of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), His Royal Majesty, Oba Rasheed Ayotunde Olabomi, Odundun IV, Asoludero, the Aragbiji of Iragbiji Land, has applauded the members of the FUNAAB Alumni Association for their resolute devotion to the growth of their alma mater.

The Pro-Chancellor gave the commendation while commissioning a fully refurbished bus and a van, the bus recently purchased by the Alumni Association, following the University's approval for boarding services. The buses were revived by the FUNAAB Alumni Body to enhance the Association's earnings.



The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman, Governing Council, HRM, Oba Rasheed Ayotunde Olabomi, Odundun IV, Asoludero, the Aragbiji of Iragbiji Land (4th Left), being assisted by the Olokinẹ of Ọjọwọ Kingdom, Ijebu-Igbo, HRH, Oba Abdulrasheed Abayomi Banjo (4th Right), and the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde (3rd Right) with other Governing Council members, cutting the tape to commission the refurbished buses

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony, Oba Olabomi described the moment as "historic and deeply symbolic of the strength of the FUNAAB Alumni family." He commended the Alumni Association for championing initiatives that not only support the University's growth but also enhance the Association's financial capabilities.

The Pro-Chancellor lauded the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, for the remarkable strides recorded under his leadership, noting that the complete transformation of what was once a scrap vehicle into a modern and functional bus epitomised innovation, resourcefulness, and the "waste-to-wealth" spirit that defines FUNAAB. He emphasised that such tangible contributions from the alumni reinforce the University's mission and operational capacity.

Oba Olabomi encouraged the Alumni Association to sustain its impactful interventions and continue executing projects that contribute meaningfully to the institution's development. He, thereafter, formally commissioned the refurbished buses in the company of the Olokinẹ of Ọjọwọ Kingdom, Ijebu-Igbo, HRH, Oba Abdulrasheed Abayomi Banjo, for the use of both the Alumni Association and the wider University Community.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde welcoming the dignitaries to the commissioning ceremony

Earlier, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, expressed profound appreciation to the Alumni Association for what he described as a "commendable gesture of transformation." He recalled that the buses were acquired as scrap through a bidding process and applauded the Association for turning them into valuable assets. He also congratulated the Pro-Chancellor and members of the Governing Council for their purposeful leadership and consistent support to Management.

Prof. Kehinde added that the successful refurbishment project underscores the power of synergy, teamwork and purposeful leadership.

Responding on behalf of the Alumni Association, the Global President, Mr. Bolaji Gbadamosi, expressed deep gratitude to the Governing Council and University Management for their encouragement. He paid tribute to the Pro-Chancellor for his fatherly disposition, citing past situations in which the royal father's wisdom helped resolve critical challenges.

Mr. Gbadamosi further commended the Vice-Chancellor for his visionary leadership, noting that the harmony between the University's leadership and the alumni body has significantly accelerated FUNAAB's developmental pace. He also provided an update on preparations for the forthcoming harvest season on the Alumni Farm, highlighting the meticulous arrangements for produce evacuation and transportation.



Global President, FUNAAB Alumni Association, Mr. Bolaji Gbadamosi appreciating the Governing Council members for their presence at the Commissioning Ceremony

He restated the Association's commitment to sustaining projects that positively impact the University, urging all stakeholders to uphold integrity and remain dedicated to FUNAAB's collective aspirations. He concluded with prayers for the continued progress, peace, and prosperity of the entire University Community.

Present at the commissioning were members of the Governing Council; Alumni Association members, including the former Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Prof. Kola Adebayo, and the Director, Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Prof. Mutiu Busari.

Others were the Global Secretary of the Association, Mr. Femi Ajayi and the Director I & II, FUNAAB Alumni Ventures, Mr. Abiodun Ajayi and Dr. Oludare Adekoyeni, respectively.

12. FUNAAB Students Receive Food Support to Ease Economic Hardship



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By Patrick Erinoso

Students of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), have received garri support packages aimed at improving their welfare and cushioning the impact of prevailing economic challenges in the country.

The initiative, organised by the Agricultural Media Resources and Extension Centre (AMREC) in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FMAFS), was held today, March 11, 2026, at the AMREC Seminar Room on the University campus.



Representing the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo, commended the supporting organisations for the intervention. He encouraged students to maintain responsible conduct that would attract more partnerships and opportunities to the University.



Speaking earlier, the Director of AMREC, Prof. Jacob Olaoye, explained that the programme was designed to provide students with essential food items to help them remain focused on their academic activities despite the current economic realities. He noted that the initiative reflected the commitment of the University and its partners to promoting student welfare and ensuring that students receive the support needed to excel in their studies.



A beneficiary, Grace Olumide, a 500-Level student of the Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics, described the semester-based support as timely and beneficial. She expressed appreciation to the organisers, stating that the garri packs would help students maintain the energy required to concentrate effectively on their studies.



Also speaking, the Dean, Student Affairs, Prof. Festus Adeosun, appreciated the Federal Government for supporting the initiative and appealed for the inclusion of more food items in future distributions to enhance the programme's impact. He emphasised that welfare initiatives play a significant role in creating a supportive and conducive learning environment for students.



The event featured the presentation of the garri packs to beneficiaries and a group photograph with University officials and students, emphasising FUNAAB's continued commitment to student welfare and academic success.