

NIGERIA ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (NESP) FACTSHEET – NESP AGRO



BOUNCING BACK: **NIGERIA ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**



The Agriculture for Food and Jobs Plan (AFJP)

July 23, 2020

The Nigeria Economic Sustainability Plan (NESP) was approved by President Muhammadu Buhari and the Federal Executive Council (FEC) on June 24, 2020, as a N2.3 trillion stimulus plan to mitigate the effects of a deep recession, while also ensuring social stability and addressing long-standing economic vulnerabilities.

The Plan was developed by an Economic Sustainability Committee established by President Buhari in March 2020, under the leadership of Vice President Yemi Osinbajo.

The Plan has been envisioned as a 'Transit' Plan between the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP) and the successor plan to the ERGP, which is currently in development.

The **Agriculture for Food and Jobs Plan (AFJP)** is a 12-month farm-to-table programme (i.e. spanning the entire agricultural value chain) designed as one of the key components of the Nigeria Economic Sustainability Plan (NESP).

Background:

NESP Agro is in line with the three-pronged action plan of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) to tackle the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Nigerian agriculture sector and farmers. These measures include:

- Life-saving humanitarian assistance to vulnerable households to mitigate the impact of the pandemic, including the release of about 100,000 metric tonnes of food commodities from the national food reserve.
- Involvement of individual farmers and agricultural cooperatives to increase agricultural labour capacity nationwide.
- Collaboration with private sector partners to expand production and output by working closely with the private sector to address all issues along the value chain, including production, harvesting, storage, transporting, processing and marketing.

Target Beneficiaries of AFJP:

- Smallholder farmers with 1 to 5 acres each of farmland (working directly with these farmers or through out-grower schemes). The symbolic launch of the NESP Agro component will take place on July 23, 2020, targeting more than 1 million smallholder farmer beneficiaries in all 36 states and the FCT in the first phase. A second phase will follow in due course.

Goals of AFJP:

- To expand existing production in the agricultural sector (yield per hectare),
- Reduce post-harvest losses through access to storage and energy
- Stimulate the establishment of new farms in partnership with State Governments, private sector and individual citizens.
- Ensure guaranteed market for agricultural produce through a combination of private sector off-takers, commodity exchanges, a government buy-back scheme, and strategic reserve purchases.

Benefits to Farmers and Communities:

- Services to farmers: Including land-clearing, ploughing, extension services.
- Financing: Zero/Low interest input-financing to farmers, for seeds, saplings, fertilisers, pesticides

- Infrastructure: Extensive construction of rural roads – using locally sourced materials like granites and rocks – as well as to ease movement of inputs and produce in farming communities

Implementing Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) for AFJP:

Presidential Task Force on Food and Jobs, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) and the Central Bank of Nigeria, with the support of State Governments and the private sector.

Expected outcomes:

The AFJP intends to:

- Create a minimum of 5 million jobs in the agriculture sector
- Produce 10 million Metric Tonnes (MT) of food
- Cultivate between 20,000 and 100,000 hectares of land per State based on land availability, amounting to an aggregate of 2.4 million hectares nationwide
- Register at least 2.4 million farmers who are linked to their farmlands using technology (biometrics and GIS).

Private Sector Partners for AFJP:

Companies in the Agricultural Value Chain, suppliers of Input and Equipment, Data collection agents, Agriculture Specialists etc. For example, the management of OCP Africa has provided AFJP with

soil testing equipment and supply of 20 kits of branded motorcycles, android tablets and safety kits.

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