



Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Solidaridad

NI-SCOPS: National Initiatives to stimulate and scale up climate-smart agriculture in oil palm landscapes in Asia and Africa

NI-SCOPS in Nigeria

Background

Nigeria is one of the major producers of palm oil in West Africa. The 6 states prioritised for engagement: Cross River, Akwa-Ibom, Edo, Enugu, Ondo, and Kogi) have the largest concentrations of independent smallholders, accounting for 89% of the palm oil production in Nigeria, and therefore offer the greatest potential for sustainable climate-smart agricultural practices to become the norm, as well as mobilizing the sector (farmers, millers and traders) to engage in the protection and restoration of critical natural resources such as soil, water and forests.

Achieving the project KPIs will contribute to the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of Nigeria. Other policy instruments benefitting from NI-SCOPS in Nigeria, are the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP), National Adaptation Strategy and Plan of Action on Climate Change for Nigeria (NASPA-CCN), National Agricultural Resilience Framework (NARF), the Nigeria REDD+ Strategy and the Agriculture Promotion Policy (APP) 2016-2020. All these policies contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1, 2, 5, 8 and 13.

Key performance Indicators for Nigeria

1. Productivity: Palm oil productivity increase, reported as % increase of ton of FFB/ha/yr.
2. Adaptation: Measured by the % increase in adoption of climate smart/ innovative/ diversification practices
3. Mitigation: Land cover change

Partnerships

NI-SCOPS partners with the Federal Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development; Industry, Trade and Investment; Environment; Department of Climate Change, as well as the REDD+ National Secretariat and local governments.

The NI-SCOPS Nigeria Forum (NNF) provides a platform where stakeholders have space for interactive exchange of ideas and learning, including how NI-SCOPS aligns collaboratively with relevant national programs of government, resulting in robust achievements of NI-SCOPS' overall goals.

NI-SCOPS has signed joint MoUs with private sector investors (Releaf Market Place, Zowasel, AgroXchange Earth Observation Systems, Bambi Farm, Okomu Oil Palm Company, Norberto Farms, Oil Palm Growers Association (OPGAN), and AgFin) in Nigeria, as well as contracts with Henkel and the Lucile Packard Foundation in Europe.

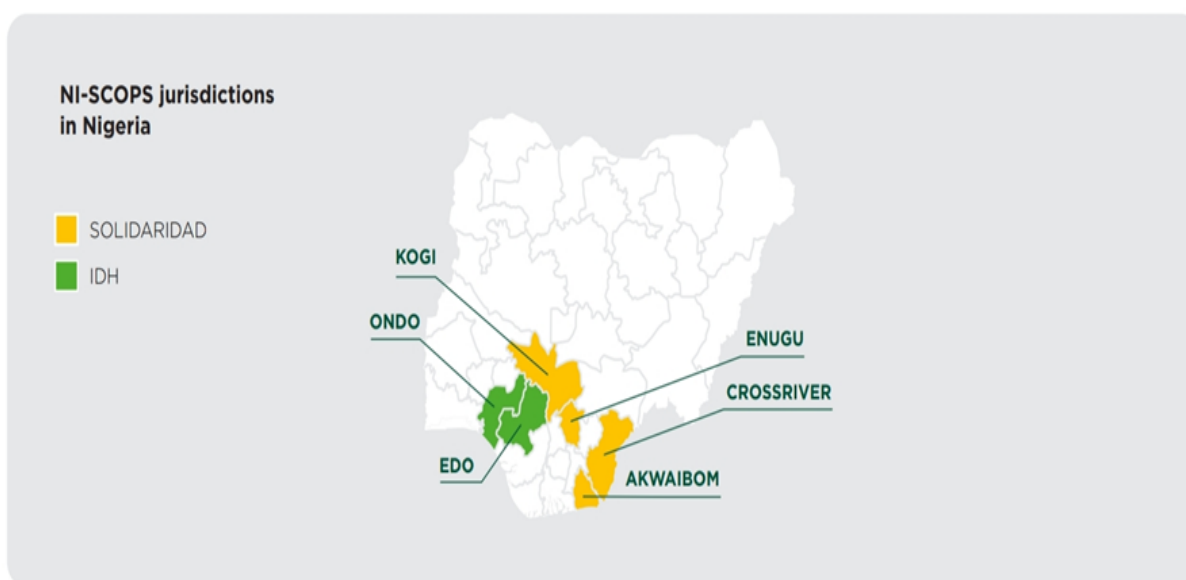
The NI-SCOPS Key Performance Indicators have been developed with support from The Federal University of Technology, Akure, School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (FUTA-SAAT) and The Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD).

Technical Assistance Provision

Solidaridad and IDH offer technical assistance to farming communities and workers and support policymakers and authorities with improving natural resource management and restoration efforts, as well as contributing to GhG emission reduction. The main work areas are supporting state level governance, supporting landscape

level governance, catalysing business and investment, implementing landscape/farm/community level interventions and supporting market linkages. So far this has achieved:

- Capacity building to increase the skills of 4770 smallholder farmers (part of 318 active smallholders farmer groups) on Better Management Practices (BMP) and Sustainable Land Use (SLU) Practices in the 4 project states (Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Enugu and Kogi).
- The establishment of 45 BMP plots and setting up of 318 Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) to enable the farmer groups to build sufficient resources to access inputs and markets.
- Two dialogue sessions on inclusive policies (issues of gender inclusion, child protection and the transition of the oil palm sector from the elderly to younger persons) and budget advocacy for improving oil palm development in Nigeria.
- The organisation of stakeholder meetings for the Nigeria NI-SCOPS Forum (NNF), State Ministry of Agriculture officials and CSOs.
- The assessment and profiling of palm oil millers and artisan mills, as well as needs assessments for smallholder farmers' skills and opportunities for livelihood diversification.
- The training and support of smallholder palm oil millers to produce briquettes as alternative sources of energy to replace the use of firewood, which degrades the forests.
- Supporting artisan oil mills with technology upgrades in order to increase oil extraction rates.



NI-SCOPS jurisdictions in Nigeria