

# Rice

Olam's 10,000 ha rice farm and mill produces rice for the Nigerian market. The farm also acts as a catalyst to support almost 4,000 smallholder rice farmers in nearby communities. Olam provides training and improved rice varieties, and then buys the crop to be processed at the mill on the rice farm. 475 farmers have been receiving the full Olam Livelihood Charter (OLC) support.

**475** farmers

**7%** women



Nigeria

## Charter Principles 2016 key facts

<b>1. Finance</b>	• <b>US\$16,875 in finance</b> for seeds
<b>2. Improved yield</b>	• <b>100%</b> of farmers trained in Good Agricultural Practices over 36 training days
<b>3. Labour practices</b>	• <b>100%</b> of farmers trained in good labour practices
<b>4. Market access</b>	• <b>622 tonnes</b> procured from 675 hectares
<b>5. Quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Investment in post-harvest assets:</b> 5 warehouses taken on lease</li> <li>• <b>1.5-2% improvement in rice out turns</b> as a result from better land preparation, supplying high quality certified seeds to farmers, and training on ideal post-harvest technologies ensuring a homogenous grain quality with lower foreign matter</li> </ul>
<b>6. Traceability</b>	• <b>100%</b> tonnage is traceable
<b>7. Social and infrastructure investment</b>	• <b>Farmers linked to finance institutions</b> (see case study)
<b>8. Environmental impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Farmers receive training</b> on safe handling and use of herbicides and pesticides, and correct disposal of empty containers.</li> <li>• <b>Bunds within and around the plots</b> conserve rain water, helping to protect the soil from erosion.</li> </ul>



## FARMER CASE STUDY



### Linking farmers to banks

In its efforts to improve food security and reduce rice imports, the Nigerian government has established various financial schemes to help farmers invest and improve yields. These are supported by various banks, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), USAID and the Nigerian State Department of Agriculture. As part of our smallholder out-reach programmes we have been hosting meetings across the villages to help the smallholders access the finance on offer. However, often the villagers lack the valid identity documents which must then be secured.

In 2016 we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the rice farmers committing to buy their rice at a fair and transparent price - a key OLC component. We pay within 24 hours and have set up a price monitoring committee which includes representatives from the farmer groups. The crop is brought to different collection centres by the farmers where it is weighed for payment.

### Thank you to our partners and supporters

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme, Nigeria Markets II (USAID).