

Sesame

In Africa, sesame is popular with the farmers as it's known as a 'survivor' plant – it can resist drought where other crops might die, and doesn't require much fertiliser which is expensive. However, the yield per hectare in Africa is still low (between 150-350kg), so the team launched the Olam Sustainable Villages programme in Nigeria 2011. The sesame goes to Olam's processing facility plant in Lagos.

1,500 farmers

39% women

Nigeria

Charter Principles 2016 key facts

1. Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US\$53,571 in financing (includes 3,000 bags of fertiliser and 7,000 litres of herbicide)
2. Improved yield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 950 farmers trained in Good Agricultural Practices • 6 metric tonnes of seeds distributed free of charge • 4 farmer field schools, 3 model farms and 4 demonstration plots for 'hands on' training.
3. Labour practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 280 farmers trained in good labour practices
4. Market access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 350 tonnes procured from 1,200 hectares
5. Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US\$10,000 paid in premiums for certification and quality
6. Traceability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% tonnage is traceable
7. Social and infrastructure investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 beneficiaries of classrooms and toilets in schools • 220 beneficiaries of boreholes for drinking water in model villages
8. Environmental impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of farmers trained in negative impacts of deforestation and sustainable land development practices • 40 saplings planted on World Environment Day with participation from Jigawa Sesame farmers' community



FARMER CASE STUDY



"I have been involved in sesame farming for the last 15 years. Earlier, we had to buy our farming inputs from the markets where we were never assured of the fertilisers or herbicides. Our yields and quality suffered."

"Olam has been supporting us for the last 10 years. We are now assured of our inputs in the beginning of the season and their training gives us the necessary support at all times. Our quality has improved and we get more produce from our farm."

"Their community development work is bringing more farmers to sesame and encouraging our women to participate in farming. This year (2016) they also helped our children with notebooks and constructed boreholes for clean drinking water in our villages. We hope their support continues with us in the future as well."

Maigiri Idi, farmer from the Garki area, Jigawa State.

Thank you to our partners and supporters

BSADP (Bauchi State Agricultural Development Programme), JARDA (Jigawa State Agric and Rural Development Authority).