Postharvest solution for Cassava farmers in Nigeria

Context
• Cassava main staple of large sub-Saharan population, making it a viable crop.
• 30 million small holder farmers grow cassava.
• Cassava is a weather resistant crop with high nutritional value.

Strategy/Opportunity
• New Israeli technology based at Volcani Institute extends post harvest life of cassava (3 months).
• Farmers and processors can implement new technology to balance harvest supply and demand (price), yielding steady income to farmers beyond the natural growing season.

Need/Challenges
• Short (2-3 days) post harvest life of cassava after harvest.
• Limited methods to extend product life.
• At harvest, volume of cassava floods market, lowering price, and limiting income for farmers.

Project and Partners
• Develop a business plan, including project and capital structure, for the development and deployment of cassava postharvest treatment and storage.
• Partnership between Israeli and Nigeria researchers, processors, and farmer cooperatives.