

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.