

# AGRA impact series



## Value kits input projects transforms farmers lives in Kaduna

Banta Yahiya, a 38 year old mother of four, is a maize smallholder farmer from Makarfi Local Government Area, Kaduna State, who has been growing maize for over 25 years using traditional farming methods.

For most of these years, Banta and her neighbours complained that farming was not profitable. They bought farm inputs such as maize seeds from open market and practiced traditional farming methods. After hearing about the positive reviews of the New Value Kits in her community, she decided to try it.

She did this by participating in the Kaduna State Consortium project funded by Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) with the Partnership for Inclusive Agricultural Transformation (PIATA) targeted to improve productivity levels of smallholder farmers.

She was given the free Value Kits, which include a complete set of farm inputs for maize production. The kit comes with composite maize inputs such as seeds, fertilizer and crop protection. She used the

Value kit and practiced the new farming techniques during 2019 planting season.

At harvest, Banta was surprised by her results; she harvested 5.6MT of maize compared to her usual 2.5 MT on her 1HA farm. In addition, the Value Kit came with extension services, which she believes added to her increased harvest. Now she is on the frontline telling other female farmers the benefits of Value Kits in her community.

Banta was able to pay some bills and planned to scale up her farm with her increased income, which she could not do for years. She said she was happy Value Seeds, with the support of PIATA, came to their community to assist smallholder farmers. Without their Value Kits, it would have been impossible to make such a huge harvest.

In her words... "Thanks to Value Seeds, now I will be able to take my surplus yield to the market. Now I can pay my children school fees, pay for medicals if I need to and expand my farming business in the next growing season".



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