

## About OAPTIN

**Name and acronym:** Organic Agriculture Projects in Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria (OAPTIN)

**Country or region of activity:** Nigeria

**Date of Creation:** June 2004

**Mission and objectives:** The vision of OAPTIN is ‘good food, safe food, plenty to eat all the time’. Its mission is ‘sustainable food security’. Our concept of Organic Agriculture is the production of food without the use of agrochemicals, which is harmful to human health or the environment in the immediate or the long run.

The focus of the project currently includes:

- Capacity building (development of skilled manpower through degree programs and ad-hoc training courses and workshops)
- Strategic research in diverse ecologies leading to the development of commercial-farming adoptable, cost effective, highly productive and sustainable production systems
- Advocacy to increase support for the practice of Organic Agriculture and the operation of profitable Organic Agriculture enterprises through conferences and publications
- Building partnerships with local and international scientists and practitioners in the field of Organic Agriculture

**Organization structure:** The organization is governed by a National Steering Committee (NSC) headed by the National Coordinator at the National Secretariat. Other members include the project Coordinating Scientist (CS), the IFOAM Contact Point Coordinator and 6 Zonal Coordinators.

**Membership:** 80 scientists, 5 people from the private sector and 20 students

**Members of staff:** 1 Coordinating Scientist, 6 Zonal Coordinators and 1 IFOAM Contact Point Coordinator. All serve on voluntary non-stipendiary in basis.

### **Achievements in the country or region:**

1. Increased public awareness on Organic Agriculture
2. Initiation of organic agric farms for research and production in tertiary institutions
3. Initiating discussions on curriculum development for Organic Agriculture in tertiary institutions in Nigeria and the in tertiary institutions in Nigeria
4. Three National Annual conferences on Organic Agriculture (2005, 2006 and 2007) for exchange of ideas and dissemination recent technologies.
5. Capacity building and advocacy

**Sources of funding:** Membership dues, occasional local and international donations/grants