THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AGRICULTURE TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SOBA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KADUNA STATE

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A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES, AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA

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NIGERIA

SEPTEMBER, 2016

DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this project entitled "The Contributions of Agriculture to Economic Development in Soba Local Government Area of Kaduna State" has been carried out by me in the Department of Local Government and Development Studies. The information derived from the literature has been duly acknowledged in the text and a list of references provided. No part of this project was previously presented for another degree or diploma at this or any other institution.

_____	_____	_____
Name of Student	**Signature**	**Date**

CERTIFICATION

This project entitled "THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AGRICULTURE TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SOBA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KADUNA STATE" by Olusegun ESAN meets the regulations governing the award of master degree in Policy and Development Studies of the Ahmadu Bello University, and isapproved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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DEDICATION

This humble research project is dedicated to Almighty God, my loving-caring wife and children and my parents and all members of my family.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization

GDP – Gross Domestic Product

SAP – Structural Adjustment Programme

CBN – Central Bank of Nigeria

NPC – National Population Commission

UNDP – United Nations Development Programme

UN – United Nations

GNP – Gross National Product

UNECA – United nations Economic Commission for Africa

NAFPP – National Accelerated Food Production Project

OFN – Operation Feed the Nation

NADB – National Agricultural Development Bank

RBDA – River Basin Development Authorities

ATA – Agricultural Transformation Agenda

GESS – Growth Enhancement Support Scheme

DPM – Director of Personnel management

PPO – Principal Personnel Officer

HOD – Head of Department

RED – Rural Electricity Board

M&E – Monitoring and Evaluation

NPI – National Programme on Immunization

CDD – Control of Diarrhea

MCH – Maternal and Child Care

SPEBs – State Primary Education Boards

DEC – District Education Committee

Abstract

This study focuses onthe relationship between agriculture and economic development and how agriculture has contributed toeconomic development of Soba Local Government area.In order to achieve this, we adoptedsurvey research method where we obtained data from primary sources using the instruments of questionnaire backed by interviews while secondary data were also collected from the records of the local government finance department and department of agriculture and natural resources. Data collected were presented and analyzed using tables and simple percentage while the hypotheses of the study were tested using the chi-square statistic.We found that agriculture has contributed immensely to economic development as it has been the main source of employment to many and that increasing agricultural productivity among farmers has enhanced opportunities for more income generation. The income being used by farmers has promoted health and educational status of many households as well as being a source of food and nutritional upliftment of households in the local government. We also found that lack of adequate farm inputs, microcredit scheme, use of inappropriate technology, environmental hazard including overdependence on imported agricultural food items were the major factors and problems militating against the development of agricultural productivity for economic development. We therefore recommended that mechanization of agriculture that will help improve the sector in rural areas and involve the use of modern machines and technologies such ploughs, tractors, harvesters, among others will make the sector productive and economic development-driven but government must intervene as rural farmers cannot afford these machines. We also recommended that adequate supply of farm inputs such as fertilizer, pesticides and insecticides, improved seedlings, chemicals, storage facilities among others to help in controlling pests and other diseases that can destroy agricultural produce can be useful in improving yearly productivity of farmers, increasing their incomes as well as impacting positively on their standard of living. There should be a microcredit scheme for farmers which should be at low interest rate and that local, states and federal governments should make it a policy to allocate specific percentage of its annual budget to the agricultural sector which must be strictly adheres to by successive governments.

CHAPTER ONE:

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation opines that agriculture is an industry that produces, processes and markets food largely in response to the daily demands of consumers within a given area, town, city and metropolis, dispersed throughout the urban areas, applying intensive production methods, using and re-using natural resources and urban wastes to yield a diversity of crops and livestock (FAO, 2004). Despite the dominant of the oil sector as the major foreign exchange earnings, agriculture remains the mainstay of the Nigerian economy in addition to contributing the largest share of gross domestic product (GDP). It is the largest non –oil export earner, the largest employer of labour and a key contributor to economic development and poverty alleviation as the large percentage of the population derive incomes from agriculture and related activities.

Agricultural sector outputs Proxied by its contribution to GD P average 50.2 percent during the period of 1960 to 1970. However, its contribution declined persistently, reaching a low of 21.8 percent in 1976 to1980 before an upward swing to 39.6 percent in 1981to 1985. The contribution increased further to 41.2 percent in 1986 to 1981 following the introduction of structural adjustment Programme (SAP) in 1986 but declined to 38.7 percent in 1991 to 1998, 40 percent and 40.4 percent in 1996 and 1998 respectively. The contribution of agriculture rose 40.0 percent in2007 and 42.1 percent in 2008 (CBN, 2000 and 2008) Over the years, the rate of growth in agricultural production has stagnated and failed to keep pace with the needs of the rapidly growing population, resulting in a progressive increase in import bills for food and industrial raw

materials. The potential of the agri-business sector as a major employer of the growing labour force and an earner of foreign exchange and contributing to economy development has also been undermined. As a result, the large majority of Nigeria's population, many of whom live in rural areas remains poor and still fabricate within their irrational desirability.

Nigeria is estimated to have a population of 140 million (NPC, 2006); UNDP, 2007), and an average annual growth rate of 2.8% (World Development Report, 2002) and most of the people live in rural area on less than a dollar per day despite the rich natural resources and vast arable land the country is blessed with. World Bank (1996), described Nigeria as a paradox and it was so described because events have shown that the poverty level due to lack of economic development contradict the immense wealth the country is blessed with (Obanda, 2006).

It was however observed that poverty in the country keep increasing every year (15% in 1960, 28% in 1980, 46% in 1985, 72% in 2011, (National Bureau of Statistic, 2011) which is associated with the neglect of the agricultural sector that had contributed to economic growth and development of the country over the years. Thus, for development to take place and become self-sustaining it will have to include the rural areas in general and the agricultural sector in particular to fast-track the pace of economic development. The core problem of widespread extreme poverty, unemployment, malnutrition, growing inequality and inability to spur economic development in rural areas, all originate in the stagnation and often retrogression of the agricultural sector. Kofi Annan, former secretary General of the United Nations, Nobel Laurent for peace and from June 2007, the first Chairman of Alliance for Green Revolution in African stated that, "African is the only region where food security and livelihood are deteriorating", we will reverse this trend by working to create an environmentally suitable uniquely African Green Revolution. When our poorest farmers finally prosper, all of the African will benefit".

Today, development economics have come to realize that far from playing a passive and supporting role in the process of economic development, the agriculture sector must play an indispensable active part in any overall strategy of economic growth, especially for the low income developing countries. Agriculture must be view not merely as a source of surpluses to support industrialization, but also as a dynamic source of growth, employment and better distribution of income and food security. Agricultural progress is essential to provide for a growing non-agricultural labour force, raw material for industrial production and saving and tax revenue to support development of the rest of the economy; to earn more foreign exchange (or save foreign exchange when primary are exported) and too provide a growing markets for domestic manufactures.

In most of the developing economies, progress of the rural development will crucially depends on the outcome of the green revolution, measures of land reforms, land settlement acts, the extensive margin, new forms of rural institutions and various special agricultural programmes designed to increase the productivity and income of the rural poor. Thus, it is however on this note that this research work will be focusing on the contributions of agriculture to economic development with specific reference to the efforts of Sabo local Government area.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

As at time of the exploration of the Nigerian coasts by the Portuguese in the Fifteen century, the country was good for trade in ‘slaves,’ but after then Europeans formally abolished slavery in 1807, though it took several years for this move to gain international recognition; it was far from popular at first because slavery has been the main source of revenue for Nigerian and once it was lost, Europeans have to find an alternative reason for maintaining a toehold in the country. At

that point, the answer was found in Nigerian's agricultural products which were valuable as raw material for Europeans fast development industrial revolution.

Palm oil was one of the first Nigerian crop for which there was a demand in Britain and by 1830s Britain was importing 10,000 tons of palm oil a year and using it for manufacturing of candles, margarine, machine oil and soap. By the 1830s, Nigerian was exporting as much rubber as it could to the British market as the discovery of vulcanization process shed greatly stimulated demands.

To come on board was cocoa, this was quickly adopted by smallholder and since then cocoa has grown to be Nigeria's largest agriculture export. Groundnut and cotton became to the North what cocoa had become to the export of agricultural products and also becomes the mainstay of the Nigerian economy. Of course, farmers were more than willing to produce crop for export, thus the commercialization of agriculture occurred rapidly and hence facilitating economic growth and development in Nigeria.

Historically, from the moment the oil boom began there has been a steady decline in the market share of the economy that was held by agriculture. In the 1960's the contribution to the gross national product was 60 percent. In the 1970's this declined to 49 percent and by the 1980's it had declined to 22 percent. This segment of Nigeria's economy had been largely ignored in favour of the oil and gas industry along with mistakes in economic policies in terms of pricing and trade and exchange rates (National Bureau of Statistics, 2012). As a result, agriculture has suffered, and increasingly has occupied a back seat in economic terms. Stagnation has set in by late 1960s and was even more apparent during the 1970s during oil boom. Agriculture was sadly

neglected and allowed to decline at a time when the opportunities for its development and expansion were greater than before.

Before the discovery of oil in Nigeria, agriculture accounted for over 60% of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as well as being a major source of foreign exchange earnings. It provided food and employment for the teeming population and raw materials for the growing industries. Ogen (2007) stated that from the standpoint of occupational distribution and contribution to the GDP, agriculture was the leading sector in the 1960s as observed above. Also, the Nigerian economy, like that of Brazil, could reasonably be described as an agricultural economy during the first decade after independence. This is because agriculture served as the engine of growth of the overall economy of the two countries. During that period, Nigeria was the world's second largest producer of cocoa, the largest exporter of palm kernel and the largest producer and exporter of palm oil. It was also a leading exporter of other major commodities such as cotton, groundnut, rubber, as well as hides and skins (Alkali, 1997). Lawal, (1997) also affirmed the positive contribution of agriculture to the Nigerian economy before the discovery of oil.

Despite the reliance of Nigerian peasant farmers on traditional tools and indigenous farming methods, these farmers produced 70% of Nigeria's exports and 95% of its food needs. The agricultural sector however suffered neglect during the hey-days of the oil boom in the 1970s. Ogen (2007) stated that agricultural sector accounted for less than 5% of Nigeria's GDP in 2004. Ever since then, Nigeria has been facing serious poverty challenges and the insufficiency of basic food needs (NEEDS, 2004). It is further revealed by NEEDS Policy Paper, 2004 that two-thirds of Nigerians live below the poverty line of US$1 per day, most of them in the rural areas. The root of this crisis lies in the neglect of agriculture and the increased dependency on

monocultural economy based on oil and worse of all importation of foods items which could ordinarily be produced and processed in Nigeria (Lawal, 2011).

Indeed, a large majority of Nigeria's poor are still farmers and poverty in itself prevents farmers from taking advantage of opportunities that could help pull them out of poverty. Lack collaterals hamper their access to credit, they may have to take their children out of school to work in the farm or hawk on the road and in the street and transmitting poverty across generations; lack health and nutrition, they are unable to work well enough to afford better market, and access to information; with lack of information and mission markets, they cannot take what might seem favourable risks for fears of felling below subsistence.

Following the aforementioned, it therefore becomes relevant for this research work to investigate the contributions of agriculture to economic development particularly in Soba Local government area of Kaduna state.

1.3 Research Questions

To guide this study, the following research questions are asked:

a. how has agricultural production contributed to economic development of rural communities in Soba local government?
b. what have been the efforts of Soba local government towards agricultural development in its area;
c. what is the spatial distribution of agriculture in Soba local government?
d. what are the factors militating against agricultural practices in Soba Local Government area?

1.4 Aim and Objectives of the Study

The aim of this research was to examine the relationship between agriculture and economic development within the study area. Specific objectives include:

a. to examine whether agricultural production has contributed to economic development of rural communities in Soba local government; and
b. to assess the efforts of Soba Local government towards agricultural development within its area of jurisdiction;
c. to determine the spatial distribution of agricultural activities in rural areas of Soba Local government area;
d. to identify and discuss factors militating against agricultural practices in Soba Local Government area**.**

1.5 Research Hypotheses

For the purpose of this research, these hypotheses will be tested:

$H0_1$: There is no significant relationship between local government support and increase agricultural productivity in Soba local government area of Kaduna state

Ho_2: there is no significant relationship between agriculture and economic development in Soba local government area of Kaduna state

1.6 Significance of the Study

This research work is significant and justifiable because Nigeria is one of the Africa's most populated country according to United Nations (2003); with annual population growth rate for Nigeria was put at 2.53% in 2000-2005 with projected population for year 2015 at 161, 726, 000

(UN,2003) and the rate of agricultural growth was about 5,2% per annual (Ukpong, 1995). For all Nigerians to be well fed and be economically stable, there must be either an increase in agricultural growth rate or a decrease in its population growth rate that is commensurate with the rate of agricultural growth. Therefore, this study will assess the level of agricultural production and how that could have impacted on economic development of farmers in rural communities of Soba local government particularly among poorest of the poor.

This study will also contribute to the knowledge that exists on this crucial aspect of rural development through in-depth analysis of agricultural practices in the study area which will be an important study expected to encourage other researchers interested in this facet of development to develop enthusiasm in finding a lasting solution to rural development challenges.

The study will also provide a systematic picture of the problem experienced by farmers, which could draw attention to other areas that may merit further research and could serve as a useful guide to students of development studies. Fundamentally, the study will put at the disposal of developers, economists, policy makers and other relevant stakeholders in agricultural sector, the necessary framework, recommendations and suggestions on how to achieve some level of economic development in general and rural development in particular.

1.7 Scope and Limitations of the Study

Agriculture is a very vast and complex field of endeavour, likewise to say issues relating to economic development are too numerous and stupendous is an even understatement. In view of the complexity of the research variables we are to work with, we will restrict our research to farming with specific reference to Soba given the fact that the local government is an agrarian

local government where most of its populace depends large on agriculture production specifically farming (both dry and raining season) as their major source of food and income.

Relating to time, the ability to obtain adequate, sufficient and up-to-date data and relevant information that will enrich the totality of this research, we examined the role of many democratic regimes at the local government (both elected and caretakers) from 2000-2014 in order to ascertain how their efforts has helped increase the productivity and income of rural farmers in Soba local government area of Kaduna state.

1.8 Definition of Key Concepts

Agriculture: Agriculture is the cultivation of animals, plants, fungi and other life-forms for food, fiber, finance and other products used to sustain life. It may be seen as the production of animals, fishes, crops and forests resources for consumption and other benefits of man. Thus, agriculture consists of the following:

Crops: Crops can be divided into: Cereals (maize, millet, sorghum, rice, wheat); Starchy roots and tubers (Yam, cassava, potatoes, cocoyam, plantain; Grain legumes (groundnut, cowpeas, soya beans); Oil seeds and nuts (melon seed, benniseed, Cashew nut); Other crops (fruits, vegetables, copra, ginger); Industrial crops (Kenaf, sugar cane, tobacco, cotton); and Tree crops (cocoa, oil palm, Kola, rubber, coffee).

Livestock: Livestock can be described in terms of breeding stock of cattle, sheep, goats piglet or gills and chickens. **Forestry**: The forest resources provide the sources of raw materials for a large number of products. These include firewood, sawn wood, wood pawls, paper and paper broads, resins fibers, raphis, Kapok, gum Arabic, species wood carving and ropes

Fisheries: There are known to be about forty thousand (40,000) different species of fishes, we have the viviparous and oviparous types of fish.

Economic Development: Economic development implies more output and changes in the technical and institutional arrangement by which it is produced and distributed. It also institutional arrangement by which it is produced and distributed. It also can be defined as a discontinuous and spontaneous change in the stationary state which forever alters and displaces the equilibrium state previously existing. This relates to structural transformation of a country's social system. While **Economic Growth** means more output and also, it is a gradual and steady change in the long run which comes about by a gradual increase in the rate of savings and population.

Rural Areas: There is no single definition of rural areas. Rural communities exhibit different features. Rural areas possess the following characteristics to varying degree: relatively small size and low density of population spread over a large or small geographical area; the main occupation of more than 70% of the population is farming and at subsistence level; non-availability of modern infrastructures, portable water, roads, electricity, educational institutions etc.; little or no influence of the population on government policies and programmes; low level of per capital income; low level of education; and most villages formed majority of the poor.

Rural Development: Rural development is understood to be multi-dimensional, encompassing improved of services, enhanced opportunities for income generation and local economic development, improved physical infrastructure, social cohesion and physical security within rural communities, active representation in local political processes and effective provision for the vulnerable.

1.9 Organization of Chapters

In chapter one, the study provided background to the study, statement of the research problem, research questions, aim and objectives of the study, research hypotheses, significance of the study, scope and limitation, definition of key concepts as well as an organization of chapters.

In chapter two, the study reviewed related literatures in the area of agriculture, rural development, economic growth and development, review empirical studies as well as provided a theoretical framework that underpinned the study.

In chapter three, the study discussed research design, population and sample size, sampling technique, sources of data and method of data presentation and analysis.

In chapter four, we provided a brief historical profile of Soba local government; objectives of local governments; organization structure of Soba local government and department of agriculture and natural resources; inputs support, extension services and machinery supplied to farmers in Soba local government area; types of crops grown, methods of farming and production of crops and animals in Soba local government area; the contributions of agriculture to economic development of Soba local government area; as well as problems of agricultural development in Soba localgovernment area.

In chapter five, the study presented and analyzed data collected through the instrument of questionnaire, we also presented and analyzed data collected from Soba local government which were basically secondary, test hypotheses of the study and provided summary of major findings.

In chapter six, the study provided summary, conclusion and made recommendation to assist in promoting agricultural development for economic growth and development.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

Agriculture in the context of the economy is essential for generating broad based growth necessary for development. Agriculture is fundamental to the sustenance of life and the bedrock of economic development, especially in the provision of adequate and nutritional food vital for human development and industrial raw materials for industries.

Nigeria is abundantly endowed with substantial natural resources which include 3012 million hectares of arable land, 12 million hectares of fresh water sources covering 960 kilometers of coastline and significant ecological diversity and livestock, forestry and fisheries products. With these resources, Nigeria have the capacity to become the strongest economy in the world without recourse to her oil wealth, as seen in the dominant role of agriculture in 1960s to both foreign exchange, creation of employment as well as contributing significantly to economic development, (Nwosu, 1980).

According to Mafindi (2011), cited in Daily Trust (Feb, 22, 2011: 19. Vol. 27) agriculture is key sector that not meaningful and sustainable development could be attained without given it a serious overriding consideration. Agricultural activities in Nigeria like in most other countries are more pronounced in the countryside than the urban areas. This is backed and simply demonstrated by statistical information which put the percentage of those actively involved at over 80% in the rural area.

Agricultural development is seen by some scholars as catalyst for sustainable economic growth and development not only to the rural sector but also on the whole economy. History also has it that, virtually all the so-called developed economies the world over, had passed through the stage

of intensive agricultural development as the basis for any other development. Thus, this chapter will discuss the roles of agriculture economic development.

2.2 The Nexus between Agriculture and Economic Development

Agriculture is very important to economic development ever since at least the time of Ricardo (1917), the "theology" of development has emphasized that, agricultural progress contributes to the support of greater productivity throughout the economy. In his "principles of Political Economy and Taxation", he viewed the problem of diminishing returns in agriculture as crucial, he believed that it is a limitation on the growth of the non- agricultural sector and capital formation for economic expansion (Jhingan, 2007).

In another but similar view, Myrdal, a noble laureate in economics also observed that, " it is in the agricultural sector that the battle for long- term economic development will be won or lost", (Todaro, 2009). That s, the progress in agricultural sector will lead to economic development while the limitation of the sector to progress may not bring about the much needed economic development in particular, developing countries.

Greater agricultural productivity and output can contribute to economic development in four ways: these are:

a. By supplying foodstuff and raw materials to other expanding sectors in the economy.
b. By providing an "investable surplus" of savings and taxes to support investment in another expanding sector;
c. By selling for cash a "marketable surplus" that will raise the demand for the rural population for products of other expanding sectors; and
d. By relaxing the foreign exchange constraints by earning import substitution, (Gerald, 1989).

Kuznets (1965), summarizes these contributions into the "market contribution" and the "factor contribution'. A given sector makes a contribution to an economy when it provides opportunities for other sector to emerge or for the economy as a whole to participate in international trade and other international economic flows. When this takes place, we designate this contribution the market contribution because the given sector provides such opportunities by offering part of its product on domestic or foreign markets in exchange for goods produced by the sectors at home or abroad.

Agriculture makes contribution to economic growth and by implication development by purchasing some production items from other sectors at home or abroad and selling of its outputs or products, not only to pay for the purchases of some production items but also to purchase consumers goods from other sectors at home or from abroad or to dispose of the product in any way other than consumption within the sector. In all these ways, agriculture makes it feasible and possible for other sectors to emerge and grow and for international flows to develop. Just as these other sectors, the international flows make it feasible for the producing unit and use its product more effectively as a consuming unit.

The "factor contribution" occurs when there is transfer or loan of resources from the given sector to others. If agriculture in itself grows, it makes a product contribution, if it trades with others, it renders a market contribution; if it transfers resources to other sector, these resources being productive factors, it makes a "factor contribution".

In the traditional interpretation, development process is seen as one of structural transformation from an economy which agricultural employment and output dominate to a decline in the share of the labour force in agriculture and a decrease in the share of agriculture in Gross National Product (GNP), but the structural transformation in itself depends on agricultural transformation

or progress. Industrial development will be cut short by lack of agricultural progress, unless the economy is in the exceptional situation of being able to export manufacturers for exports of foodstuff and raw materials for example, Hong Kong.

In Lewis "Dual sector Model", it is said that if food supply to the modern sector do not keep up with the modern sectors demands for labour, the modern sector will have to consume a large share of its labour force and this will leave a smaller surplus of capital formation. More generally, it is widely believed that, "both in concept and in practice, it is possible for the agricultural sector to make large net transfer of resources to other sectors. If these transfers are used productively, the rate of economic growth can be accelerated". Agriculture's contribution of foodstuff, the "wage good" in classical terminology is clear. If the labour force for manufacturing or another expanding sector is drawn from agriculture, new workers must take "their lunch" with them when they leave the rural sector. A growing urban sector or labour force must be supported by an expanding supply of foodstuff; a growing population must also be supported with increased food supplies. For instance, the annual rate of increase in demand for food is given by D= P+ng, where P and g represent the rate of population growth and per capita income, and n is the income elasticity of demand for agricultural products. As indicated by Mellor (1973), not only are there high rate of population growth in the less developed countries, but the income elasticity for demand for food in these countries is considerably higher than in more developed or high- income countries; probably on the order of 0.6 or higher in the lower income countries, as compared with 0.2 or 0.3 Western Europe. United States and Canada. A given rate of increase in per capita income therefore has a considerably stronger impact on the demand for agricultural products in the lower income countries than in the economically advanced countries (Jhingan, 2007).

Also, through the transfer of capital and labour to non- farm activities, agriculture may also provide an investable surplus; the transfer of labour has been repeatedly discussed in the context of the Lewis model.

It should be noted however that, agriculture can be a source of capital formation in a way other than the simple lending of voluntary savings.

There may be a compulsory transfer from agriculture for the benefit of other sectors, ordinarily through taxation in which the burden on agriculture is greater than the governmental services provided to agriculture. As Kuznets (1965) remarks:

"The measurement of such forced contribution of agriculture to economic growth is not easy; the incidence of some direct taxes is difficult to ascertain and the allocation of government expenditures in terms of benefits to agriculture and to economic growth elsewhere is far from simple. But this factor contribution by agriculture was clearly quite large in the early phases of economic growth and in Japan particularly, in the last two decades of the nineteenth century, the land tax was over 80 percent at central government taxation and the direct tax ratio to central government taxation and the direct tax ratio to income produced was between 12 and 22 percent in agriculture compared with from 2 to 3 percent in the non- agriculture sectors. Forced extraction of surplus from agriculture by taxation, confiscation and other measures also probably financed a considerable part of industrialization in the Soviet Union. Indeed, one of the crucial problems of modern economic growth is how to extract from the product of agriculture a surplus for the financing of capital formation in industrial growth without at the same time blighting the growth of agriculture under conditions where no easy quid pro quo for such surplus is available within the country. It is only the open economy, with access to the markets of

the more highly developed countries, both for goods and for capital loans that can minimize this painful task of initial capital formation".

Another way of transferring resources from agriculture to non- agricultural sectors is by government turning the terms of trade against agricultural by imposing price controls on agricultural products by taxation, or by using multiple exchange rates that discriminate against agriculture. If the improvement in the terms of trade in the non-agricultural sectors raises non-agricultural incomes, and the beneficiaries save at a higher marginal rate than the decreased agricultural would have made a net contribution to total saving in an indirect manner.

A "marketable surplus" from agriculture is needed only to provide the wage good to industry, but also to widen the home market for the industrial products. The demand for industrial products depends on growth of farm cash income, unless the country can export its growing industrial of the home market in the rural sector, the nature of rural demand will affect the growth of non-farm employment and output. Increased agricultural productivity, a growing marketable surplus and rising real income are necessary to raise sectors demand for industrial output.

Finally, agriculture is a major source of foreign exchange. It is clear that agriculture exports dominate in a country's early phase of development, also agriculture is important in relaxing foreign exchange constraint. There is the possibility in several developing countries of saving foreign exchange by replacing imports of foodstuff with home production. Export promotion and import substitution are activities not only for the industrial sector but also for agriculture (Jhingan, 2007).

2.2.1 Agriculture and Rural Development

Effective and efficient agriculture will provides income from direct agricultural employment and sales of agricultural produce as well as abundance of valuable resources or material possessions.

The rural people purchasing power tends to increase with more income, abundance of valuable resources and materials possessions, when the purchasing power of the rural dwellers improved, it will facilitate the capacity for economic, development to take place. The government will provide the critical rural services such as water, roads, drainages and electricity with the taxpayer's money from rapid economic growth and development. The provision of critical services will expand and attract internal and external investors, there will be creation of more jobs, the economic opportunities of the rural areas will be high and this will improve the standard of living and material well- being of the rural populace. The employment opportunity of the rural areas will expand and diversify.

Jhingan (2008), observed that, as agricultural productivity and income increases, non- farm rural employment expand and diversify: Landless or peasant farmers will principally engage in non-agricultural pursuit which include the manufacture of textile, tools, furniture, leather materials (shoe and bag), handcraft and metal work, marketing, transporting, construction of houses and bridges. With the income from these activities, rural people will be able to pay their children school fees, maintain the family health care services and be able to meet other general demands of family as well as provides services that will promote the welfare of members of the family.

Jhingan (2007) also maintained that increase in rural income as a result of agricultural surplus tends to improve rural people's welfare; peasant and landless farmers will have extra income. If agriculture is developed to improve their consumption of higher nutritional values build better houses, rather than the mud houses, pay electricity bill, have good furniture, radio and television, motor etc. they also receive direct satisfaction or utility from such services such as schools, hospital, irrigation, banking, transport and communication facilities.

Active and an efficient agriculture which increases rural economic development will provide a large domestic market for industrial products especially agro-allied products. There will be increasing demand for industrial goods by the farmers and other rural inhabitants. Such products include fertilizer, spraying chemicals, tractors, bulldozer and other farm inputs and materials provided by the industry. The agricultural sector plays a major role in the overall growth as well as connecting the rural poor to growth (Timmer, 2005). Agriculture curtails poverty by providing an affordable platform which poor households can experiment which way to improve their livelihood and help to prevent premature and rampant rural –urban migration and the explosive growth of large cities (East – wood et al, 2004),. Agricultural sector growth in most developing countries has implication not only for growth in other sectors but also poverty and inequality reduction (Thorebeckje, 1996).

2.2.2 Types of Agriculture

There could be possibility of more than five to six types of agriculture; however, these are particularly important to this study:

Mechanized Farming: This involves the extensive use of machine and other types of advanced mechanical devices in agricultural production. Mechanized farming or agriculture ensures large-scale production because the use of human labour is replaced with that of machines such as tractors, ploughs, harvesters and other engine driven devices. Mechanized farming is unpopular in many part of Nigeria.

Plantation Farming: This system involves the use of large estate of land permanently planted with economic and commercial crops. Such crops planted on plantation farms include Cocoa, tea, cotton, tobacco, rubber, sugar cane, palm tree, coffee, and other commercial crops. In

plantation farm, land could be owned by the government, private individuals or corporate bodies. Mechanized equipment and modern input are mainly used in plantation farming.

Peasant Farming: This involves cultivation on small- scale areas of land. The land on which peasant farmers cultivate is often owned community and they employ mainly their own family labour. Peasant farming is also known as subsistence agriculture because it is aimed at producing output to meet the needs of small group of people especially the farmer's. The size of land used by peasant farmers is determined by the size of the family and the number of children or members of the family interested in farming. Equipment such as hoes, cutlasses, axes, etc. which are crude in nature are used in peasant farming.

Cooperative Farming: This is a type of farming in which farmers come together to form a sort of association or union. This type of farming is adopted in order to obtain loans and aids from government, donors or other relevant agencies on agriculture to be able to hire or purchase farming machinery or mechanize agriculture, to pull resources together in order to increase agricultural production.

2.2.3 Agricultural Sub-sectors and Challenges in Nigeria

This covers such primary production activities such as crops, livestock, forestry, wildlife and fisheries.

Crops: There are varieties of crops produced in Nigeria, these crops can be conveniently divided into major groups cereals (maize, sorghum etc.), starchy roots and tubers (yams, cassava, potatoes etc.); legumes (groundnuts, cowpeas, soybeans etc.), oil seeds and nuts (cashew nut, melon seeds, beniseed etc.), miscellaneous crops (fruits, vegetable, copra, ginger, etc.) industrial crops (kanag, sugar cane, tobacco, etc.); tree crops (cocoa, oil palm, kola, etc.). However, the level of production of these crops per unit area is very poor in Nigeria. Thus output barely keeps

pace with socio-economic growth, as a result of inadequate supply of high quality of planting materials, low viability and yield and essentially, primitive cultural and crop management practices. Put differently, the technology of inputs utilization as well as the level of input productivity is still poor. There is also the issue of ecological limits to crops in the wide latitudinal range covered by the country. This aspect alone account for wide viabilities in crop potentials as well as physiographic factors also affect crop population per unit of land and thus call for an optional crop management conducive to maximum yield.

Livestock: As a resource input, livestock can be described in terms of breeding stock of cattle, sheep, goat, piglet, chicks etc. the livestock appear considerable, but essentially underdeveloped, and result in inability of supply to meet demand. There are also problems of breeds, genetic potentials, fertility productivity, and resistance to diseases, adaptability to bio- climatic stresses etc., all which limits production potentials.

In other words, ecological and climatic factors, which are neglected in vegetation enological or disease- belt zooning, tend to restrict livestock to well defined belts or zones. Also, stock population per unit of areas and off-spring per stock, stock output of carcass, eggs and other livestock products appears low in relations to potential investment and hence complicates the animal protein problems facing the country.

Forest: The wide range of vegetation in Nigeria which varies from mangrove forest to Sahel vegetation has been responsible for various types of flora generically termed forests. The vegetation variations are true reflection of the climatic zoning of the country. The forest resources provide sources of raw materials for a large. Number of products, but the continuous deforestation in many parts of Nigeria gives room for desert encroachment.

Wildlife: The fauna of any country is a true reflection of the vegetation or flora. The wildlife resources have always been considered subsidiary to forestry with which it is closely associated. The effect of this subsidiary conception is the peripheral treatment accorded wildlife resources in expansion programmes, recreation activities, game reserves, national parks and zoological gardens. An important end is the provision of meat (bush meat) especially in abound. It is estimated that the total value of bush meet consumed is about N80 million per annum, (Derrick, 1990). There has in recent years, been a spate of indiscriminate harvesting of wildlife for food and game and this led to progressive declamation and extermination of some species whilst the remaining number of breeding stock is too few to maintain the natural level of animal population.

Fisheries: Nigeria is endowed with substantial water resources including a growing number of man- made lakes and dams. These water bodies constitute the abode of marine and fresh water fisheries in addition with growing numbers of fish farms. The fisheries component comprises industrial fisheries (distant water and coastal fishing), traditional or artisanal fisheries (fishing of coastal and brackish water), fresh water fisheries of the major rivers and lakes and pisciculture. This component is equally faced with the problems of productivity, resources scarcity, poor technology and inadequate capital.

2.2.4 Factors Militating against Optimum Productivity and Maximum Profit of Agricultural Activities in Nigeria

As years roll-by, Nigeria fails short in its capacity to feed its population and those who engaged in agricultural activities continue to be in poverty. Since 1987, there has been total decline in agricultural production in Nigeria. We are yet to have a government that sees agriculture as a key component for national development. Year-in, year- out, requirement for food importation

increases, as at 2010, it increases from 16% to 18% as at 2011, costing twelve to sixteen billion dollars of food importation ranging from sugar, rice, wheat, barley and other food items too numerous to be mentioned. Between 1987 and 1989, Nigeria Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was well above that of China; the Chinese GDP at that time was comparable to that of Cote D'Ivoire. Today, the deficit between the two countries is above 9 billion naira. From pampers, toddlers, to shoes we wear and the toothpicks on or table, all are china imports (Daily Trust, Feb 22, 2011:19).

Out of the nineteenth (19) northern states and 387 thousand wards, 83.2% of these communities are largely agrarian and can produce enough agricultural outputs for this country, however, some of these communities if not all, still depend on ancient system (Madlion, 2011). There are less than 20,000 functional tractors in all of the 19 Northern States. There is no linkage between research institutions and the Wakilin Nomas, Wakilin Dabbobis. We are losing grip of our youth's love for agriculture. In fact, nowadays, agriculture is perceived as an occupation of those who have failed in other positions in the entire country. 11 states out of 19 states are frontline states of desertification such states are Sokoto, Kebbi, Jigawa, Kano, Adamawa, Bauchi, Taraba, Katisna, Gombe, Kaduna and Niger. The country still depends on system of the Gwari to produce yam flours, local system of growing tomatoes, there is lack of seed production adequate enough for farmers, lack of adequate research to bring in new seeds to replace the old recycled seeds used by the rural farmers. We depend on rain-feed agriculture, as most people believed that the lack of industries in Nigeria is as a result of only power; the industries close down because of the cost of raw materials. If the cotton production in Nigeria is consistent, proactive and cheap, the industries will manage to run the factories on diesel. But the last time we had cotton seed

production or new seedling for cotton was in 1976 and 1978 which was called “Samaru 76 and Samaru 77”, (Aminu, 2009).

There has not been any seed on cotton. There have not been any new improved seeds on our Universal Time Coordinated tomatoes, watermelon from Alkaleri. We recycled the same old technology during the time of our founding fathers. We do not produce enough beans for citizens we depend on Burkina- Faso to support our beans production. If one takes away the Gbaji kingdom and the Nupes, Yam production in Nigeria would be history. Yet government has failed to promote one community, one product to support vegetation exchange. The poor performance of students in schools is largely as a result of lack of adequate food nutrients, (Todaro, 2009). A child that has failed to have good protein between the ages of one and six years has lost 26% of potentialities. Other factors that are militating against optimum productivity and maximum profit of agriculture in Nigeria are:

a. The rapid shift of the population from rural to urban areas and shift in consumption patterns from the local to food.
b. Lack of funds, adequate processing and storage facilities and inefficiencies in inputs supply and distribution.
c. The oil boom policy inconsistency and the decline in political commitments to agricultural and rural development.
d. Absence of a price support mechanism and pervasive distortion in macro- economic and sectoral policies, including heavy taxation of agricultural exports and misaligned exchange rates.
e. A degraded environment that reduces agricultural yields.
f. Low market access, lack of access to land and poor information flow.

2.2.5 The Concept of Rural Development

Agriculture development depends on innovation and is a major source of improved productivity, competitiveness and economic growth throughout advanced and emerging economies. Innovation in agriculture plays an important role in creating jobs, generating more income, alleviating poverty and driving social development. If farmers, agribusiness and even the nation have to cope, compete and thrive in the midst of changes in agriculture and the economy, there must be innovation of agricultural practices at the federal, state and particularly within the rural areas.

The use of the term rural as a geographical entity is meant for analytical purpose. Rural areas are part and parcel of the nation as a whole, and thus rural development is not a distinct phenomenon on its own. The development of a country cannot be measured only from the urban but also more importantly the rural sector. Rural development therefore is the logical means of developing a country.

There are various views about rural development, however, of greater importance than sheer numbers is the fact that well over two-thirds of the world's poorest people are also located in rural areas and engaged primarily in subsistence agriculture, which form their survival. Many hundreds of millions of people have been by passed by whatever economic progress their nations have attained. It is estimated that 800 million people do not have enough food to meet their basic nutritional needs. In their daily struggle to subsist, their behavior often seems irrational to many observers who until recently had little comprehension of the precarious nature of subsistence living and the importance of avoiding risks (Todaro, 2009).

If development is to take place and become self- sustaining, it will have to include the rural areas generally and the agricultural sector in particular. The core problems of widespread poverty,

growing inequality and rapid population growth all originate in the stagnation and often retrogression of economic life in rural areas particularly in Nigeria, (Todaro, 2009).

Traditionally in economic development, agriculture has been assumed to play a passive and supportive role. It primary purpose was to provide sufficient low- priced food and manpower to the expanding industrial economy which was thought to be the dynamic " leading sector" in any overall strategy of economic development. Lewis's famous two- sector model is an example of a theory of development that places heavy emphasis on rapid industrial growth with an agricultural sector fueling this industrial expansion by means of its cheap food and surplus labour.

Today, development economists have come to realize that fat from playing a passive, supportive role in the process of economic development, the agricultural sector in particular and the rural economy in general must play an indispensable part in any overall strategy of economic progress, especially for low- income developing countries.

Rural development to some scholars is the same with agricultural development, that agriculture is the dominant occupation of the rural populace, because the lives of the rural dwellers are centered around agriculture, and so to them it is how no raise productivity in agriculture. Others conceive the process of rural development as "involving efforts made to increase the level of per capita income in the rural areas and also increasing the standard of living of the rural population in general". Most of the programmes of rural development in Nigeria are in fact, associated with the achievement of the twin objectives.

According to United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) (1969), which has been in the forefront in the projection of this concept; "Rural Development should be viewed in an integrated milieu, calling for a set of policies and projects which are designed and coordinated, that will raise and sustain the standard of living of the rural population as a

whole…., as a concept, rural development should be analyzes both from the standpoint of increased production…. And from the standpoint of social advancement arising from a higher level of income and consumption and the satisfaction of human needs above the basic" (Derrick, 1990).

Abakare (1991) , sees rural development as " the process whereby concerted efforts are made in order to facilitate significant increase in rural resources productivity with the overall objective of enhance rural income, increasing employment opportunities and upgrading rural communities. Rural development therefore is just an aspect of development, which focuses on a particular segment of the society (rural0. It is an attempt to reduce the element of poverty, diseases, illiteracy, malnutrition, communication barrier etc. in the rural areas (Abubakar, 2008).

Rural development is also a political approach to setting all sectoral problems in the rural areas, such as agricultural transformation, land reforms, small- scale industrialization, and provision of basic necessities of life (food, roads, schools, hospital, pipe borne water, telecommunication network and electricity). This is an attempt to transform the rural areas to look like urban centers. It is an integrated rural development because it takes into account all facets of development.

Liberal writers proposed, there should be huge capital investment in the rural areas so as to resuscitate the rural economy and by implication the national economy as a whole.

2.2.6 Economics of Agricultural Development

According to Todaro (2009), he economics of agricultural development is about transition from peasant subsistence to specialize commercial farming. To Todaro we can consider the evolutions over time from a predominantly subsistence level and small- scale peasant orientation to more

diversified operations and eventually to the rise to fully commercial enterprises, though still often family- based.

Agricultural modernization in mixed -market developing economies may be described in terms of the general gradual but sustained transition from subsistence to diversified and specialized production. But such a transformation involves much more than reorganizing the structure of the farm economy or applying new agricultural technologies. Transforming traditional agriculture often requires, in addition to adapting the farm structure to meet the demand for increased production, profound changes affecting the entire social, political and institutional structure of rural societies. Without such changes, agricultural development will either never get started or more likely, simply widen the already sizeable gap between the few wealthy large landlords and the masses of impoverished tenant farmers, small holders and landless labourers.

Therefore for development to be achieve in the rural areas and to the national economy, there is the need for a paradigm shift from a subsistence farming practices to a more technologically advanced supported by good but friendly government policies and a logical implementation of agricultural development policies in Nigeria.

2.2.7 Strategies for Agricultural and Rural Development

Todaro (2009), observed that, if the major objective of agricultural and rural development in developing nations is the progressive improvement in rural levels of living achieved primary through increases in small farm incomes, output, and productivity, along with genuine food security, it is important to identify the principal sources of agricultural and rural progress and the basic conditions essential to their achievement. There are:

-Technology and Innovation: In most developing countries, new agricultural technologies and innovations in farms practices are preconditions for sustained improvements in levels of outputs

and productivity. The introduction of mechanized agriculture help to replace human labour thereby increasing productivity as well as the introduction of labour- saving machinery can have a dramatic effect on the volume of output per worker, especially where land is extensively cultivated and labour is scarce.

-Mechanization of Agriculture: There should be introduction of mechanized agriculture in the rural areas to replace human labour and the provision of biological (hybrid seeds and biotechnology), water control, irrigation, chemicals, fertilizer, insecticide to support farming activities for a shift from subsistence to mechanized farming.

-Institutional and Pricing Policies: Providing the necessary economic incentives to farmers can facilitate agricultural and rural development. Government policies seems to the advantage of large – scale farmers who have access to obtain low- interest government credit while the small-holders are forced to turn to money lenders. For example, in Nigeria, N200 billion was set aside by the federal government for agricultural sector in 2010, however, only 20% was given to subsistence farming and it is the peasant farming that produces 90% of food in the country. The result of this marginalization of peasant farmers has all been too often been the further widening of the existing gap between the rich and the poor. Therefore, for rural and agricultural development there should be empowerment of peasant farmers (Central Bank Annual Report, 2010).

-Importantly also, is the failure in government policies as relates to the pricing of agricultural commodities, especially food grains and other staple products for local markets. Government in its head long to the pursuit of rapid industrial and urban development, maintained low agricultural prices in an attempt to provide cheap food for the urban modern sector. Farmers were paid prices below either world competitive or free- market internal prices. With low prices

of farm produce (in most cases, below the cost of production) there could be no incentives for farmers to expand output or invest in new productivity raising technology , as a result, agricultural supplies continually fell short of demand.

-Many development economists therefore argued that, if governments are to promote further increase in agricultural production that will make a large impact on poverty reduction, government must provide incentives for small and medium size farmers by implementing pricing policies that truly internal market conditions.

-Land reforms: Farm structures and land tenure patterns must be adapted to the dual objectives of increasing food production and promoting a wider distribution of the benefits of agrarian progress, allowing further progress against poverty. Land reform usually entails a redistribution of the rights of ownership or use of land away from large landowners in favour of cultivators with very limited or no landholdings. Thus, for humane reasons as well as for reasons of higher agricultural output and the simultaneous achievement of both greater efficiency and equity that land reform is often proposed as a necessary first condition for agricultural development. This will serve as the basis for improved output levels and higher standard of living for rural peasant farmers.

-Supportive policies: The full benefits of small- scale agricultural development cannot be realized unless government support systems are created to provide the necessary aid service (technical and educational extension services, public credit facilities/ agencies, storage and marketing facilities, rural transport and feeder roads), provide changes in rural institutions that control production (banks, money lender, seeds and fertilizer distributors) and provide necessary pricing policies with regard to both inputs(remove factor price distortion) and output (market value prices).

To development economists, supportive policies are an essential condition for sustained agricultural progress. Rural and agricultural development efforts should be made to raise both farm and non- farm rural real income through job creation, rural industrialization, and other non-farm opportunities and the increased provision of education, health, nutrition, housing and a variety of related social and welfare services, promoting conservation and preventing the harmful misuse of agricultural chemicals and other farm inputs.

2.2.8 Government Policies toward Agricultural Development in Nigeria

There seems to be an understanding that a strong and efficient agricultural sector has the potential to enable Nigeria feed its growing population, generate employment, earn foreign exchange and provide raw materials for industries. It is believed that the vibrancy of the agricultural sector has a multiplier effect on the nation's socioeconomic and industrial fabric due to its multifunctional nature. In other words, the agricultural sector remains an important engine of growth in a developing economy like Nigeria.

A lot of policy measures and programmes have been adopted in Nigeria since independence. All the measure aimed mainly at elevating agriculture from it pitiable position of subsistence level of market oriented. However, many scholars argue that most of the policies and programmes designed for agricultural development in Nigeria are also geared towards rural development. Some of these policy measures and programmes include;

The National Accelerated Food Production Project (NAFPP): NAFPP was established in 1973 aimed at accelerating the production of major staple crops like wheat, sorghum, millet, rice, maize and cassava. To ensure that farmers were able to use the packages, a dense network of

extension workers and agro-service was set up. The programme provided some facilities like credit, marketing, storage and processing facilities to farmers.

Credit Availability: The recognition of the role of credit facility to agricultural development prompted government to establish the Nigeria Agricultural Development Bank (NADB) in 1973, with its headquarter in Kaduna State. The bank gives loans directly to individuals' farmers, organizations and established institutions. Other credits are made available for agricultural development by commercial Banks through central bank credit guidance directives and the federal Government agricultural credit guarantee scheme.

The River Basin Development Authorities (RBDA): The Federal Government in 1976 established one River Basin Development Authority under Decree 25. The RBDAs were aimed at development of land and water resources for the general development of agricultural in Nigeria.

Operation Feed the Nation (OFN): OFN was launched in 1976 by the Obasanjo Military administration. It was aimed at mobilizing Nigerians to take active part in growing their own food which will lead to increase in food production thereby leading to self- sufficiency in food production. Subsidized supplies of fertilizers, seeds etc. were provided.

The Land Use Decree: The land use decree was promulgated in 1978 and incorporated into the 1979 constitutions. The Decree was aimed at reforming the land tenure system which had constituted a bottleneck to large-scale farming in Nigeria. The Decree gave boost to agricultural by making land readily available for large- scale agricultural activities.

The Commodity Boards: In 1977, the Federal Government established seven commodity Boards under Decree No. 29. These seven marketing boards replaced the dissolved regional boards, the boards took care of Cocoa, rubber, cotton, groundnut, grains (Cereals) root crops,

(Cassava, Yam and Cocoyam), palm produce (palm oil and kernel). The boards were established mainly to encourage increases in production and marketing of various commodities, conduct research into production and encourage the processing of commodities assigned to the various boards.

Green Revolution: The green revolution was launched in 1980 by Shagari administration in an effort to forestall or curb shortage of food in the country and increase food production. Ran by National Council of Green Revolution, it operated on green revolution principles, that is, the use of high yielding varieties of seed, high inputs of fertilizer, irrigation etc, which offered renewed hope for farmers.

Manpower Training: In recognition of the role trained agricultural manpower play in the development of modern agriculture the various governments in Nigeria have spent substantial amount in agricultural education by establishing institutes and research centers for agriculture. In further of the training of agricultural experts, the Babangida Administration converted some universities into University of Agriculture, Makurdi (1988), University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (1988).

The New Nigerian Agricultural Policy:The previous agricultural policy document was finalized in 1988 and was supposed to remain operative until the year 2000. Hence, in year 2001, a new policy document was launched. The new policy document bears most of the features of the old one, but with more focused direction and better articulation.

In a broad sense, the objectives of the new agricultural policy (as stated in the document) are very similar to those of the old one. They include:(i) The achievement of self-sufficiency in basic food supply and the attainment of food security;(ii) Increased production of agricultural raw materials for industries;(iii) Increased production and processing of export crops, using improved

production and processing technologies; (iv) Generating gainful employment; (v) Rational utilization of agricultural resources, improved protection of agricultural land resources from drought, desert encroachment, soil erosion and flood, and the general preservation of the environment for the sustainability of agricultural production; (vi) Promotion of the increased application of modern technology to agricultural production; and, (vii) Improvement in the quality of life of rural dwellers.

The key features of the new policy are as follows:

- Evolution of strategies that will ensure self-sufficiency and improvement in the level of technical and economic efficiency in food production. This is to be achieved through (i) the introduction and adoption of improved seeds and seed stock, (ii) adoption of improved husbandry and appropriate machinery and equipment, (iii) efficient utilization of resources, (iv) encouragement of ecological specialization, and (v) recognition of the roles and potentials of small -scale farmers as the major producers of food in the country.
- Reduction of risks and uncertainties in agriculture, to be achieved through the introduction of a more comprehensive agricultural insurance scheme to reduce the natural hazard factor militating against agricultural production and security of investment.
- A nationwide, unified and all-inclusive extension delivery system under the Agricultural Development Programs (ADPs).
- Active promotion of agro-allied industry to strengthen the linkage effect of agriculture on the economy.
- Provision of such facilities and incentives as rural infrastructure, rural banking, primary health care, cottage industries etc., to encourage agricultural and rural development and attract youths (including school leavers) to go back to the land.

The major content of the policy framework is also discussed. The policies cover issues on (i) agricultural resources (land, labor, capital, seeds, fertilizer, etc.) whose supply and prices affect the profitability of agricultural business, (ii) crops, livestock, fisheries and agro-forestry production, (iii) pest control, (iv) mechanization, (v) water resources and irrigation, (vi) rural infrastructure, (vii) agricultural extension and technology transfer, (viii) research and development (R&D), (ix) agricultural commodity storage, processing and marketing, (x) credit supply, (xi) insurance, (xii) agricultural cooperatives, (xiii) training and manpower development, and (xiv) agricultural statistics and information management.

Regarding the New Policy Direction, according to the document, the new agricultural policy will herald in a new policy direction via new policy strategies that will lay the foundation for sustained improvement in agricultural productivity and output. The new strategies involve:(i) Creating a more conducive macro-environment to stimulate greater private sector investment in agriculture;(ii) Rationalizing the roles of the tiers of government and the private sector in their promotional and supportive efforts to stimulate agricultural growth; (iii) Reorganizing the institutional framework for government intervention in the agricultural sector to facilitate the smooth and integrated development of the sector; (iv) Articulating and implementing integrated rural development programs to raise the quality of life of the rural people; (v) Increasing budgetary allocation and other fiscal incentives to agriculture and promoting the necessary developmental, supportive and service-oriented activities to enhance agricultural productivity, production and market opportunities; and (vi). Rectifying import tariff anomalies in respect of agricultural products and promoting the increased use of agricultural machinery and inputs through favourable tariff policy.

On the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders, the new agricultural policy has spelt out definitive roles and responsibilities for the federal, state and local governments as well as the private sector in order to remove role duplication and overlapping functions among them. The revised roles and responsibilities are outlined as follows:

The Federal Government: Under the new policy regime, the Federal Government shall be responsible for: the provision of a general policy framework, including macroeconomic policies for agricultural and rural development and for the guidance of all stakeholders; maintenance of a reasonable flow of resources into agriculture and the rural economy; support for rural infrastructure development in collaboration with state and local governments; research and development of appropriate technology for agriculture, including biotechnology; seed industry development, seed law enforcement and seed quality control; support for input supply and distribution, including seeds, seedlings, brood stock and fingerlings; continued support for agricultural extension services; management of impounded water, supervision of large dams and irrigation canals and maintenance of pumping facilities; control of pests and diseases of national and international significance and the promotion of integrated disease and pest management; establishment and maintenance of virile national and international animal and plant quarantine services; maintenance of favourable tariff regime for agricultural commodities; promotion of the export of agricultural commodities through, among others, the Export Processing Zones (EPZs); establishment of an agricultural insurance scheme; (xiv) maintenance of a Strategic National Grain Reserve for national food security; coordination of agricultural data and information management systems; inventorization of land resources and control of land use and land degradation; training and manpower development; participation in the mapping and development of interstate cattle and grazing routes and watering points; promotion of micro-and rural credit

institutions; promotion of agricultural commodity development and marketing institutions; maintenance of fishing terminals and other fisheries infrastructure, including cold rooms; promotion of trawling, artisanal and aquaculture fisheries; promotion of fish feed production; protection of Nigeria's Exclusive Economic Zone for fisheries resources; and periodic review of agreements on international agricultural trade.

The State Governments: The state governments will be primarily responsible for: the promotion of the primary production of all agricultural commodities through the provision of a virile and effective extension service; promotion of the production of inputs for crops, livestock, fish and forestry; ensuring access to land for all those wishing to engage in farming; development and management of irrigation facilities and dams; grazing reserve development and creation of water access for livestock; training and manpower development; control of plant and animal pests and diseases; promotion of appropriate institutions for administering credit to smallholder farmers; maintenance of buffer stocks of agricultural commodities; investment in rural infrastructure, including rural roads and water supply in collaboration with federal and local governments; and, ownership, management and control of forest estates held in trust for local communities.

The Local Governments: The local governments will be expected to take over progressively the responsibilities of state governments with respect to: the provision of effective extension service; provision of rural infrastructure to complement federal and state governments' efforts; management of irrigation areas of dams; mobilization of farmers for accelerated agricultural and rural development through cooperative organizations, local institutions and communities; provision of land for new entrants into farming in accordance with the provision of the Land Use Act; and, coordination of data collection at primary levels.

The Private Sector: According to the policy document, since agricultural production, processing, storage and marketing are essentially private sector activities; the role of the private sector will be to take advantage of the improved enabling environment provided by the public sector for profitable agricultural investment. In particular, the public sector is expected to play a leading role with respect to: investment in all aspects of upstream and downstream agricultural enterprises and agribusinesses, including agricultural commodity storage, processing and marketing; agricultural input supply and distribution; the production of commercial seeds, seedlings, brood stock and fingerlings under government certification and quality control; agricultural mechanization; provision of enterprise-specific rural infrastructure; and support for research in all aspects of agriculture.

Agricultural Transformation Agenda (ATA Nigeria): The Government of President Goodluck have since assumption of office in 2011 set out a road map for agricultural transformation under the 7-point agenda aimed at increasing food production thereby ensuring food security for the nation and raw materials for mass industrial development and also more income and foreign earnings. This is achievable by providing incentives to famers such as credit facilities, more inputs such as hybrid seed, pesticides, insecticides, also encouraging patronage of "made in Nigeria" products through the reduction of high dependence on import.

The main agricultural goals enunciated under the seven (7) point agenda are diversified economy, food security, employment generation, economic linkages, exports and poverty reduction. The 7-point Agenda acknowledges the often-mentioned challenges in Nigeria's agricultural development as follows: low productivity, low quality of private sector investment, lack of domestic and international

competitivene, weak domestic policies and institutions, inadequate funding and lack of organized land titling and tenure.

Example of such incentives include Growth Enhancement Support (GES) scheme, the GES programme is a federal government initiative aimed at subsidizing the cost of major agricultural inputs such as fertilizer and seeds. Under this initiative, the direct procurement and distribution of farm inputs to farmers is discontinued and supplies are expected to be done through an electronic distribution channel known as e-wallet. The e-wallet scheme stipulates that farmers registered under the GES are expected to pay 50% of the cost of inputs, while the federal and state government pays 25% each, (Leadership , June 26, 2012:35).

2.2.9 Why Government Policies on Agriculture and Rural Development Failed in Nigeria

Response of various administrations to agricultural and rural development appears to have been largely ad-hoc and not well coordinated. For example, National Accelerated Food Production Project (NAFPP), Operations Feed the National (OFN) , Green Revolution etc. were established by different governments to address various agricultural challenges such as lack of access to land, credit, farm inputs, appropriate technology etc. While none of these programmes was completely without merit, none of them had a significant, lasting or sustainable positive effect.

The factors hindering the success of government efforts on agriculture and rural development include:

- Poor coordination
- Excessive political interference
- Making agricultural policies without considering the role of industries
- Ineffective targeting of farmers leading to leakage of benefits to unintended beneficiaries
- The unwieldy scope of programmes, which caused resources to be thinly spread across to many projects.

- Lack of continuity, as new governments comes in with it own policy without considering the stage or level which the previous policy has gone.
- The absence of sustainability mechanisms in programmes and project
- Lack of involvement of beneficiaries (Ahmad, 1977).

Policy instability and inconsistency in policies are said to be one of the major constraints to the effectiveness of past agricultural policies in Nigeria (Manyong et al, 2003). They reported that over the years, the rate of turnover of agricultural policies had been high with many policies formulated and scrapped in rapid succession. This problem they stated could be partly ascribed to political instability as every successive military government tended to jettison most of its predecessor's policies and programmes. They stated further that some agricultural policies and programmes of government tended to be mutually antagonistic rather than being mutually complementary and reinforcing. They cited as an example the conflict which existed between government's domestic food production policy and its cheap food import policy. Ogen (2007) in his own contribution stated that the lofty objectives of good projects turned out to be a mirage because of official corruption and lack of commitment on the part of those saddled with the responsibility of implementing the policies. On the issue of policy implementation, Manyong et al (2003) are of the view that there was tendency on the part of government policy makers to regard formulation of policies as ends in themselves rather than being means to desired ends and as such, little attention was paid to the efficient implementation of the policies. They stated further that poor managerial capacity, bureaucratic bottleneck, corruption and high rates of policy turnover tended to complicate the problem of policy implementation.

The Technical Assistance to the House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture in their Policy Brief Paper No 2, (2005) stated that past public spending in agriculture has not produced the desired results. They saw the major weakness of agriculture sector spending as the large

incidence of unintended beneficiaries. Citing the issue of procurement of fertilizer as an example, they stated that "while fertilizer subsidies are intended to benefit small- scale farmers and achieve increased crop productivity, the unintended but real beneficiaries have been rent-seeking government officials, fertilizer merchants and agents" (p.8). They further cited the Central Bank of Nigeria Reports to show that in 2001, fertilizer prices ranged from N1500-2500 as against the official subsidized rate of N1000 per a 50kg bag. Fertilizers which should have been sold directly to the farmers were used to seek political favours and diverted to middlemen and got to the end-users at prohibitive cost. Fertilizer's prices thus remained out of reach of farmers and fertilizer was not available at the right time (Technical Assistance to the House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture Policy Brief Paper No 2, 2005).

Okolo (2004) catalogued the key issues responsible for the poor outcome of the agricultural sector as under investment in the sector and multiple political considerations in otherwise technical agricultural issues. The Technical Assistance to the House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture reported in their Policy Brief Paper No 2 of August 2005 that as at then, agricultural share of federal capital budget (1.5%) fell short of the target of 4% set by the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS). Evbuomwan et al (2003) attributed the low performance of agricultural sector to the use of crude implements, a low level of inputs and limited areas under cultivation. They attributed the specific constraints to increased agricultural production in Nigeria to the absence of an enabling environment for the private sector to effectively engage in agricultural production by the Government.

2.2.10 Role of Agriculture and Industry in Economic Development

Agriculture as noted earlier supply foodstuff raw materials, save foreign exchange etc., but this is not enough to bring about economic development, industrialization is a pre-requisite for economic development, which must take place simultaneously with agricultural development.

In Nigeria, there is overcrowding on the land, holdings are subdivided and fragmented, and farmers practice traditional agriculture. For rapid development, Nigeria cannot afford to wait for changes in farm industrial development to supply fertilizers, farm machinery and other inputs so as to increase efficiency on the farm.

Again, industrialization is necessary in order to provide employment to the underemployed and unemployed in the agricultural sector in Nigeria. In Nigeria, large number of people are underemployed or unemployed whose marginal product is zero or negligible. Since the marginal product of labour is higher in industry than agriculture, transferring such workers to the industrial sector will raise aggregate output. Industrialization brings social transformation, social equality more equitable distribution of income and balanced regional development in the process of economic development.

In Nigeria, more people are engage in agricultural for their livelihood than industrial and other sectors of the economy. Agricultural growth provides food for the growing non- agricultural labour force and raw materials for agro-based industries, stimulates domestic demand for industrial products or goods, increases saving and tax revenue to be imports of capital, intermediate goods and raw materials for village, small and medium industries in rural and urban areas, thereby contributing to overall economic development .

With industrialization, incomes rise rapidly which increase the demand for such agricultural commodities as milk, vegetables, eggs, poultry etc., since the production of such commodities is

labour intensive, agricultural production is greatly increased without enlarging farm acreage, this is turn, provides more work to the rural population and raises incomes (Jhingan, 2007).

"Nigerians should, therefore, achieve the harmonious development of agriculture and industry for a steady growth and development of the economy as a whole.

2.2.11 Role of Agriculture in the Nigerian Economy

Before the oil boom in the 1970s, agriculture was the mainstay of the Nigerian economy. Each region then had a unique selling proportion. Northern Nigeria was chiefly famous for the production of groundnut for export. The proceeds from these cash crops were used to established some enduring institutions and finance major public ventures. It is on records that our prestigious. "Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, was built with earnings from groundnut. Cocoa was the life-wire of the Western Region while Eastern Region was built on palm oil, kernel and coal. The then premier of the Western Nigeria, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, relied heavily on pickings of cocoa to finance the populist but capital intensive free education scheme. Similarly, many pubic institutions in the East, including the popular University of Nigeria, Nsukka, owned their existence to the takings of palm fruit and its by-products (Sunday Trust, Jan 31, 2010: 28). Other contribution includes:

- Employment: Agriculture has been the major source of direct employment in Nigeria. Agriculture offered employment to over 80% of the population in the earlier years of Nigeria's development. However, direct employment of agriculture in the economy reduces with development of the economy; developments are deployment of more and efficient technology. Be that as it may, agriculture is still the larger employer of labour in Nigeria along the agricultural value- chain. Value chain talks about the process of

agricultural production from land clearing, planting, harvesting, marketing and to the use of agricultural produce.

- Poverty Reduction: Agricultural sector contributes tremendously o poverty reduction by providing employment and income from employment as well as selling of agricultural products after the reservation of those uses for domestic purpose. Agriculture has been a key contributor to poverty alleviation in Nigeria, by expanding rural activities such as marketing and transportation of such agricultural products etc., to earn income that will be able to provide them the basic necessities of life.
- Food Security: Agricultural has helped and is still helping to provide security and nutritional upliftment for Nigerian. Although food security cannot be guaranteed now in Nigeria but agriculture still continue to provide food for the Nigerian population. These include yam, cassava, rice, maize, sorghum and millet, which constitute the main food crops in Nigeria.
- Foreign Exchange Earnings and Gross Domestic Product: Agriculture contributed over 80% to the Nigeria's foreign earnings up to the late 1980s, but the discovery of oil in commercial quantity however changes contribution of agriculture to foreign exchange earnings which now stood at less than 20%. Agricultural also contributes to we look at the contribution of agriculture to GDP was 64.1% in 1970, it dropped to 47.6% , was 40% in 1996 and 40.4% in 1998 and up to 42% in 2010 (Abubakar, 2012).

  Agriculture contributes to industrial expansion, not only to the provision of capital or cheap food and raw materials but also creation of markets for industrial products like hoes, fertilizer, insecticides, pesticides, tractors etc. It also made contribution to economic

development through the release of productive factors to the urban industrial sector and generate capital for development.

Agriculture provides the earnings for the importation of capital goods and industrial raw materials as well as providing domestic capital for the modernization of Nigerian economy infrastructures. Road network, railways lines were constructed with agricultural earnings (Jumare, 2010).

2.2.12 Causes of Agricultural Decline in Nigeria

There are many factors responsible for decline in the agricultural sector in Nigeria, however of ore sheer importance are two major variables, which have influenced the agricultural sector in Nigeria; these factors are the oil and government policies.

The Impact of Oil on Agriculture: Soon after the discovery of oil in commercial quantity by 1980, it was contributing over 80% of foreign exchange earnings. Rural- urban migration also soars high as people became aware of employment opportunities provided by the oil industry, they sharply left their homes and farms for the "Street of Gold" in the cities. According to World Bank, the proportion of workers in the agricultural sector declined from around 72% to the population in 1965, to around 67% in 1980, (World Bank, 1987).

There was high inflation as many money chases few agricultural and industrial products, as consumers goods, farm implements and inputs cost much more, but farm outputs low and was sold for same or low prices.

Government Policies: At the down of independence, the Nigerian government decided to pursue a policy of industrialization aimed at replacing import with goods produced in Nigeria. This new industrialization was financed by export taxes; as agricultural raw materials were Nigeria's chief exports, it was therefore the farming sector that effectively subsidized industrialization. As time

goes on, the burden of taxation increased, leading the farmers poorer. Famers were subjected to not only taxes on their exports products but also to import duties on consumer goods and to paid taxes (taxes paid by all adults). These severe demands on a farmer's income lowered morale in the farming sector and had a demanding effect on cash cropping (Berry, 1973). All these led to decline and still causing deep decline in agricultural contributions to the Nigerian economy.

2.3 The Concept of Economic Development

Economic development generally refers to the sustained, concerted actions of policy makers and communities that promotes the standards of living and economic health of a specific area. Economic development can also be referred to as the quantitative and qualitative changes in the economy. Such actions can involve multiple areas including development of human capital, regional competitiveness, health, safety, literacy, rural infrastructures and mobility and other initiatives.

According to Deardoff (1978), economic development is the sustained increase in the economic standard of living of a country's population, normally accomplished by increasing its stocks of physical and human capital and improving its technology. To Cornell (2000), economic development is typically measured in terms of jobs and income, but is also includes improvements in human development, education, health, choice, and environmental sustainability. There are many views to what is economic development, however, economic development emphasizes increase in output and such increase should 'trickle down' to changes the living standard of the people (James, 2008).

2.3.1 Economic Development and Economic Growth

According to schumpeter, economic development is a discontinuous and spontaneous change in the stationary state which forever alters and displaces the equilibrium state previously existing:

while economic growth is a gradual and steady change in the long run which comes about by a gradual increase in the role of savings and population.

According to Kindleberger (1965), economic growth means more output, while economic development implies both more output and changes in the technical and institutional arrangement by which it is produced and distributed (Jhingan, 2008).

Thus economic growth is related to a quantitative sustained increase in the country's per capita output or income accompanied by expansion in its labour force, capital and volume of trade. On the other hand, economic development is a wider concept than economic growth.

"It is taken as growth plus change". It is related to quantitative changes in economic wants, goods, incentives, institutions, productivity and knowledge or the "upward movement of the entire social system".

An economy can growth but it may not develop because poverty, unemployment, and inequalities may continue to persist due to absence of technological and structural changes. But it is also difficult to imagine economic development without economic growth in the absence of an increase in output per capita, particularly when population is growing rapidly. For development to have taken place, the output must be at least commensurate if not higher than the rate of population growth over a long period of time (20-25). This will help to ascertain the actual contributions of agriculture either to economic growth or economic development.

2.3.2 Measurement of Economic Development

According to Jhingan (2007), economic development is measured in four ways:

GNP: One of the methods to measure economic development is in terms of an increase in the economy's real national income over a long period of time. Real national income refers to the country's total outputs of final goods and services in real terms rather than in money terms.

GNP Per Capita: This measure relates to an increase in the per capita real income of the economy over long-period. Economists are one in defining economic development in terms of an increase in per capita real income or output. Meier defines economic development "as the process whereby the real per capita income of a country increases over a long period of time-subject to the stipulations that the number of people below an absolute poverty line" does not increase, and that the rate of increase in real per capita income should be higher than the growth rate of population.

Welfare: There is also a tendency to measure economic development from the point of view of economic welfare. Economic development here is regarded as the process of whereby there is an increase in the consumption of goods and services of individuals. According to Okun and Richardson, economic development is "a sustained, secular improvement in material well-being, which we may consider to be reflected in an increasing flow of goods and services", (Jhingan, 2009).

Social Indicators: Economist include a wide variety of items in social indicators, some are 'input; such as nutritional standard or number of hospital beds or doctors per head of population, while others may be 'outputs' corresponding to these inputs such as improvement in health in terms of infant mortality rates, sickness rates etc. Social indicators are often referred to as the 'basic needs' for development. Basic needs focus on alleviation of poverty by providing basic human needs to the poor. The direct provision of such basic needs as health, education, food, water, sanitation and housing affects poverty in shorter period and with fewer monetary resources than GNP/GNP per capita strategy which aims at increasing productivity and incomes of the poor automatically over the long run.

2.4 Prospects of Agriculture to Economic Development

What comes out of the analyses so far, is that, in recent years have been tremendous changes in economic development countries in general, but for agricultural sector in particular. Important questions and concerns remain and a new agenda for agriculture is slowly emerging. In this agenda, there are several key elements.

- The consequences of "new agriculture" as coined by Sadoulet (2006), which includes high value crops and quality foods required by urban distribution channels and exports, health standards and organic foods, standardized delivery in contracts with supermarkets, demands of agro-industry for non-traditional exports, labeling and certification, vertical coordinated chains etc.
- The future of small farms, poor rural households and remote (marginal) areas who are often excluded from perhaps, the ''new agriculture''.
- The role of local supply chains and food crops, which we can label ' the local agriculture (as opposed to the 'new agriculture') in rural development and for small farms.
- The role of the non- farm (rural) economy in offering opportunities to rural (poor) households.
- The establishment of safety nets for those vulnerable poor households who have very little opportunities, little access to non- farm income and for whom agriculture is a risky and low substance livelihood strategy (Todaro, 2009).

In a nutshell, a review of eleven (11) case studies by Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations revealed that these indirect or direct contributions are not well understood, seldom analyzed in the context of economic development, and rarely reflected in national and rural development policy formulation. The study underlines the strong interdependence

between agriculture and other sectors, as well as the 23 many gross-sector linkages through agricultural growth supports overall economic growth and development and many benefits to the society.

2.5 Review of Empirical Studies

Studies have been conducted in the area of agriculture and rural development, agriculture and economic growth and development in Nigeria and elsewhere which are relevant and have been reviewed below to support this study. These studies include:

The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO, 2008) reported that in terms of capital allocation to agriculture in Nigeria, it was an average of 4.74 percent from 1970-1980. But, from 1980-2000, it rose to 7.00 percent and 10 percent from 2001-2011, though revealing an increase, but still falls short of Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) recommendation that 25 percent of government capital budget be assigned to the agricultural development capital budget.

In another related study, Iganiga and Unemhilin (2011) examined the impact of federal government agricultural expenditure on agricultural output in Nigeria. The study covers 1970 to 2008 and it used the Cobb Douglas growth model, Descriptive statistics, and Econometric model to analyze the data (by employing ECM). Their findings show that the federal government capital expenditure was positively related to agricultural output. However, with one year lag period, it shows that the impact of government expenditure on agriculture is not instantaneous. Though the study observed that the investment in agricultural sector is imperative and that it should be complemented with monitored credit facilities, it also recommended that food importation should be banned to encourage local producers and processors.

Also, Okhira and Saliu (2008) examined the impact of exchange rate on inflation rate and the relationship that exist among government expenditure, money supply , exchange rate, oil revenue, inflation and agricultural productivity in Nigeria. The study employed the Augmented Dickey Fuller to carry out the unit root test and co-integration with Johansen test. The study observed that variables are correlated, which means the impact of each variable on the rate of inflation in the economy is inseparable. Also that there was a strong long run relationship. The study also added that measure by government to reducing amount of money supplied, government expenditure and control measure on exchange rate could lead to poor productivity in the country. The study finally recommends that the policy maker should try to cushion the effect of inflation on the country when the need comes such that rise in exchange rate will not lead to inflationary pressure, decline agricultural productivity in the short run even though inflation and exchange have no long run relationship, short run relationship however do exist.

Yusuf and Yusuf (2007) also examined the determinants of selected agricultural export crops in Nigeria covering 30 years using three major agricultural exportable commodities of cocoa, rubber and palm kernel. The results of the parsimonious error correction specifications showed that the previous year's output and the net value of world trade negatively affect cocoa exports at 1 percent level while the previous year's GDP positively contributes to cocoa export at 5 percent. The legged price ratio reduces rubber export significantly at 5 percent but the real exchange rate significantly increases the export performance of rubber at 10 percent level. The previous year's exports of palm kernel and the real GDP contributed positively to palm kernel exports at 5 percent level while the lagged premium and palm kernel output negatively contributed to its export at 5 percent and 10 percent respectively. Then, it was concluded that promotion of agricultural exports is essential to reduce the burden of dependence on oil exports.

2.6 Theoretical Framework

For the purpose of this study, we will adopt the "Socialist Theory of Rural Development" by Aziz (1987) as a framework to guide our research as adopted by Doma (2012). The preoccupation for the presentation of materials is that of identifying and critically evaluating dominant theoretical framework that could serve as a guide to the researcher in examination of the problem under study. A theoretical framework provides ways of selecting, conceptualizing, categorizing, and ordering data relating to certain kinds of analytical problem. The theory attempted to analyze the nexus between agriculture and rural development. The theory is succinctly discussed below:

Socialist Theory of Rural Development by Sartaj Aziz (1987)

Agriculture in the rural areas is believed to bring about economic and rural development. Rural development has various dimensions but it is particularly the development of agricultural sector, which is widely believed to provide the main impetus not only for reducing poverty and hunger but also for ensuring better economic and rural development in Soba Local Government Area. Thus, the socialist theory of rural development by Aziz (1987) viewed to be the mirror in achieving successful economic and rural development in the local government.

The first is equitable distribution of land and other rural resources. However, when and where these resources are unevenly distributed, Aziz explains, 'If the 5 or 10% of the rural population owns and control a large proportions, say one-third to one-half of the total land and 30-40% of the rural population has only 6-10% of the land, very few objectives of rural development can be achieved.

The second important element upon which economic development in rural area is built upon is the organization of the rural population for collective or cooperative activities appropriate to the

stage of development and to the level of technology that has been achieved. This could be by mobilizing the unemployed and underemployed labour force for improving and developing the land. Aziz (1987), highlights that, ‘undertaking in irrigation and water-control projects or building rural roads and, in subsequent stages, ability to divert manpower for other activities and improving agricultural technology is so important. More so, it also require the gradual evolution of structural institutional framework that will lead to sustained technological advancement and a well steady increase in modern agricultural inputs such as farm machinery, fertilizer, better seeds, pesticides etc.’’. Aziz (1987) explains that collectivization rests on four important factors: the need to mobilize surplus labour force for land and water development which requires a sizeable land areas; pooling of saving and investable resources; uniform sharing of knowledge and technology; and greater specialization and better management. Much more important is improvement in social relationship and equitable distribution of incomes when land is collectively owned by those who manage to cultivate it.

The key element is the capacity of the rural population for diversifying its activities to ensure increasing social productivity in a growing population, more employment opportunities and rising incomes. Aziz (1987) point out that, ‘there must be gradual diversification of the rural economy into fisheries, forestry, and animals husbandry and especially into rural industries’’. Therefore, these forms of activities and other related services which include distribution and transport will create additional income for the rural population which is land-scarce countries cannot meet their basic needs only from the cultivation of land. The diversified activities provide the rural population a greater sense of harmonious participation and fulfillment in dealing with societal goals.

The fourth element is the gradual but active promotion of a policy of social development. This can be understood with the help of three interrelated components as highlighted by Aziz (1987), 'the expansion of the education and health facilities and other social services to the extent possible through the community's own financial and human resources; efforts to improve employment and income distribution; and greater harmony in social relationship''. The provision and expansion of education and healthcare facilities is critically imperative in the development of human resources which is the nature of social relationship in every society, which the objectives of social development far goes beyond the narrow concept of social justice and better income distribution among rural populace. Aziz (1987) asserts that, ''oppression and exploitation by the land owners, the local official or the middle men are essential in many countries and these must be eliminated through land reforms, administrative reforms or other institutional devices which not only impose ceiling on larger holding but also change the social and political relationship in the rural area''. Therefore, after removing all forms of negative barriers to social progress, the result will be creating a positive social structure which will result to dignify, self-respect and equally a sense of full participation by every member of the society and basically these will enable the local government rural populace live and work together in a healthy, dynamic and harmonious social environment.

The fifth and last element of the theory is, a viable framework for rural development must provide for political and administrative capacity to link the particular rural community with the rest of the economy and to resolve the possible conflicts which will inevitably arises among and between different interest groups within the community and in many cases, with outside interest. Aziz(1987) further explains, ''the administrative and political framework for rural development must be evolved first on a just theory of distribution which protects the legitimate interest of the

rural population and second on the most appropriate, and horizontal diversion of labour which is closely related to the economic and technological progress of the population''.

In fact, there is no any rural community that can achieve sustained economic development, when it is directly or indirectly exploited either by the so-called tax system or the kind of trade under which it operates.

Relevance of the Theoretical Framework to the Study

This theory which is specifically on rural development, agriculture as the core ingredient, points out salient variables which if incorporated to this study will enhance better economic development in Soba local government area. Each variable emphasizes the relevant way which if integrated and taken into cognizance will bring about economic development and good condition for rural development of the area. Aziz (1987) points out that, there should be equitable distribution of land and other rural resources in favour of the rural populace for more agricultural productivity that will establish viable economic and rural development. Thus, land reform should be given urgent attention and the authority must handle it carefully to enable the people benefits from it. This will result to the development of the agricultural sector and the total positive transformation of the area. The strategic land reforms in favour of the rural farmers are highly paramount, as these will ensure that essential basic needs of these rural people are met.

This theory also, emphasized the importance of diversifying activities in rural areas. To ensure increasing social productivity, such as more employment in Soba local government, the provision of other relevant services, such as distribution and transport of both agricultural inputs for a greater economic and rural development is essential to be achieved in the local government. Moreover, rural economic development will require sustained technological development for

steady increase in modern farming inputs such as farm machinery, fertilizer, improved seeds and pesticides for more agricultural productivity of the local government. This will make the rural populace save and invest their resources for better economic development of the area.

The promotion of social development policy through the expansion of education, healthcare and other social services by utilizing the community own financial resource is crucial to human development and that it will bring about better and sustained development in the local government area. The question of economic and rural development need to be addressed by political and administrative capacity which will therefore improve the economy of Soba local government area and resolve all possible conflicts at the rural level to achieve meaningful and practical economic and rural development. These administrative and political framework, need to be built on a reliable theory and practices of distribution. Countries like China used this theory in building and achieving her economic and rural development of the present.

In a nutshell, the ultimate success of any out lined strategy of rural development as discussed above, depend largely on the strength of the political system to motivate the rural dwellers of the area, de-emphasizing material rewards which often create high expectation in a developing economy. Thus, Soba local government should strive to discover ways of motivating its populace in order to achieve the set objective of this theory. The commitment of political leadership to these important objectives must be effectively and efficiently accompanied by strong administrative mechanism in the local government, otherwise, the strategy is bound to fail at different levels of implementation.

CHAPTER THREE:

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

Research is any organized enquiry that aims at providing information for solving identified problems. In this chapter therefore, we will be discussing research design, population and sample size, sampling technique, sources of data and method of data presentation and analysis.

3.2 Research Design

A research of this type will require an approach that will ensure consistency and accuracy, better understanding of issues, what need to be measured formally and a final valuable result. In order to achieve this, the researcher has chosen the exploratory research method, which is the combination of personal interview with individuals and groups as well as the use of questionnaires. The personal interview method provides an avenue or the research to interact freely with the respondents in order to clear any misconception or problems of the subject matter and to uncover reliable data for this work.

3.3 Population and Sample of the Study

The population for this study consists of the total number of people registered under the 2006 National Population Census. Therefore, the population of Soba local government is two hundred and ninety five thousand, five hundred and eighty six persons (National Population Commission, 2006). Looking at the size of the people and the complexity of determining the number of farmers who engage in farming which even the local government has no records, the study sampled farmers and local government staff in Soba local government. The farmers were drawn

from the five districts where forty (40) respondents were selected from each district while twenty of staff of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources of Soba local government were also sampled. This means the sample for this study is adopted at two hundred and twenty (220) respondents whereby same numbers of questionnaires will be administered. On the other hand, a farmer was interviewed from each of the five districts of the local government area while five staff of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources were selected for interview using purposive sampling technique as explained above.

3.4 Sampling Techniques

There are numerous sampling techniques used in drawing out a sample, but for the purpose of this work, purposive sampling techniques will be used. Purposive sampling is adopted because the investigator exercises his judgement to include elements that are presumed to be typical of a given population about which he seeks information (Adejo, 1995). Therefore, only those confirmed to be farmer by the researcher who also agreed to complete our research instrument were selected.

3.5 Sources of Data

The research work uses both primary and secondary sources of data:

Primary Sources: In primary sources, interviews and questionnaires are considered relevant and most appropriate. This involves interviews with local government principal officers in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, field workers and some famers. The relevance of interview method of data gathering is undisputable especially where there is low level of literacy amongst the farming households or the population for the study.

Secondary Sources: Useful information under the secondary source were collected both from the records of the Finance Department and the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Other data and information which were basically secondary were collected from National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) publications, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) publications, textbooks, Journals, Newspapers, internet and various papers delivered at conferences, seminars, workshops and government records. This made comparison between finding and theories possible.

3.6 Method of Data Presentation and Analysis

Tables were used for an orderly presentation of data from farmers and staff of agriculture and natural resources department in Soba local government. Statistical methods employed in this research work were simple percentage and chi-square. The simple percentage was used to present the data while chi-square was used to test the hypotheses of the study.

Chi-square as

$X^2 = (fo-fe)/fe$

Where X2=Chi-square

fo =observed frequency

fe = expected frequency

Table values that were obtained from the field (observed frequencies) that relates to each of the hypotheses were selected, calculated and compared with anticipated values (expected frequencies). Where expected and observed values are compared and the calculated chi-Square value is greater than the critical value, the null hypothesis (H_0) was rejected while the alternate hypothesis (H1) was accepted, and where the calculated value is less than the tabulated value, the alternate hypothesis (H1) was rejected while the null hypothesis (Ho) was accepted.

CHAPTER FOUR:

HISTORY AND OPERATIONAL PATTERN OF SOBA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

4.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we provided a brief historical profile of Soba local government; objectives of local governments; organization structure of Soba local government and department of agriculture and natural resources; inputs support, extension services and machinery supplied to farmers in Soba local government area; types of crops grown, methods of farming and production of crops and animals in Soba local government area; the contributions of agriculture to economic development of Soba local government area; as well as problems of agricultural development in Soba localgovernment area.

4.2 Historical Profile of Soba Local Government

Soba local government area of Kaduna state was created in 1989 during the regime of the former Head of State, General Ibrahim BadamasiBabangida. The local government was carved out of the present Zaria local government area. The local government headquarters is located in Maigana and has two districts in the time of its creation which include Soba and SabonGari districts. Later on, SabonGari was carved out to form its own local government area in 1991 from the present Soba local government area. The local government has both Hausa and Fulani with other tribe from other parts of the state and country found within the local government. It also has Islam as its dominant religion practiced by many; however, the local government has a sizeable population of those practicing Christianity.

The local government is situated at the Northern part of Nigeria, 100 kilometres away from the state capital; Kaduna. It the North, the local government is bordered by Igabi local government area and Kaura local government area in the South, Kubau local government area in the East,

Ikara, Makarfi and some parts of SabonGari local government in the North as well as Sabon and Zaria local government areas in the West. The local government covers approximately 2955 sqaurekilometres and lies between latitude 90 degrees and 110 degrees North and longitude 7 degrees and 8 degrees Northeast.

According the data contained in the 2006 National headcount, Soba local government has a population of 127,793 males and 167,793 females which gives it a total population of 295,586 people.

Majority of the people in the local government are predominantly farmers, cattle rearers, a pocket of public servants and traders. The area is blessed with vast arable and fertile land suitable for the cultivation both during the raining and dry seasons. They cultivate crops like millet, maize, rice, groundnut, cotton, tomatoes, pepper, sugarcane, vegetables, etc.

More importantly, the local government also has semi-agricultural scheme industries which include Lungu Soba Community-based Irrigation Scheme, Apple Orchard at Maigana, Oil Palm at Maigana, the local government also has some recreational facilities at Fagachi Forest Reserved which is blossoming with trees, Matari Dam, FarinKasa Dam, Tudun Wada Dam, Danwata Dam, Maigana Dam and Turawa/MakwaronLemu Dam among others.

The main sources of revenues for the local government are derived through the monthly federal government grants and internally generated revenue through its various established markets across the local government and the Fagachi reserved forest. Some of the markets which generate huge among of revenues from the sale of farm produce among farmers include Tudun Wada Siabu, Soba, Dinya, Maigana, Turawa, Rahama, Danwata, Gamagira, FarinKasa among other revenues generating markets with the local government.

4.3 Objectives of Local Governments

Local government implies a system of government which is subordinate to the state and federal government but which does not act merely as a departmental agent of the arms of government. Local government however is not a self-sufficient entity and derives its powers from the state and federal government and its authority from the electorates during democracy, and is substantially controlled and influenced by these facts.

The objectives of the local government system can be stated thus:

a. Provision of integrated, functional and progressive administration to oversee and coordinate the activities of the people such as to affect the relationship between them and the federal or state government;
b. Provision of health or medical facilities to the rural area, that is, clinic or hospitals qualified staff, drugs, ambulance services, preventive health services and similar services;
c. Provision of good reliable educational facilities and personnel (Nursery, Primary, Secondary and Tertiary institution where applicable);
d. Provision of social infrastructures and recreational facilities, like sports, half water electricity, good roads, public libraries, and market etc.;
e. Submitting dependable, unfavourable data and useful information on the extent of development of each local government area to the notices of the state and federal government;
f. Empowering people of grassroots to established small scale business, to reduce the rate of unemployment and improved the living standard of the people;

g. Advising the state and federal government on how best to reach the grassroots people, and setting in motion the modalities and precept of integrated rural development in Nigeria;
h. Engaging on distribution of significant information and public enlightenment to the people of rural area on how to improve their standard of living, by starting small scale industries which will lead to the development of the rural areas;
i. General sport for specific activities which geared towards cultural proportion, and development of such areas;
j. Offer tangible services towards, community development (Town and country planning regulation and control of building, public housing schemes, and empowering people on self-employment in other to reduce poverty etc.);
k. Performing other significant social, cultural and economic function as well as security services to the grassroots people; and
l. Serving as coordinator of various communal project and moral support where applicable.

It is therefore, true to claim that local government objectives are many, but the means of attaining the fulfillment of such objectives are few, capital for one is often very limited.

4.4 Organization Structure of Soba Local Government and Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources

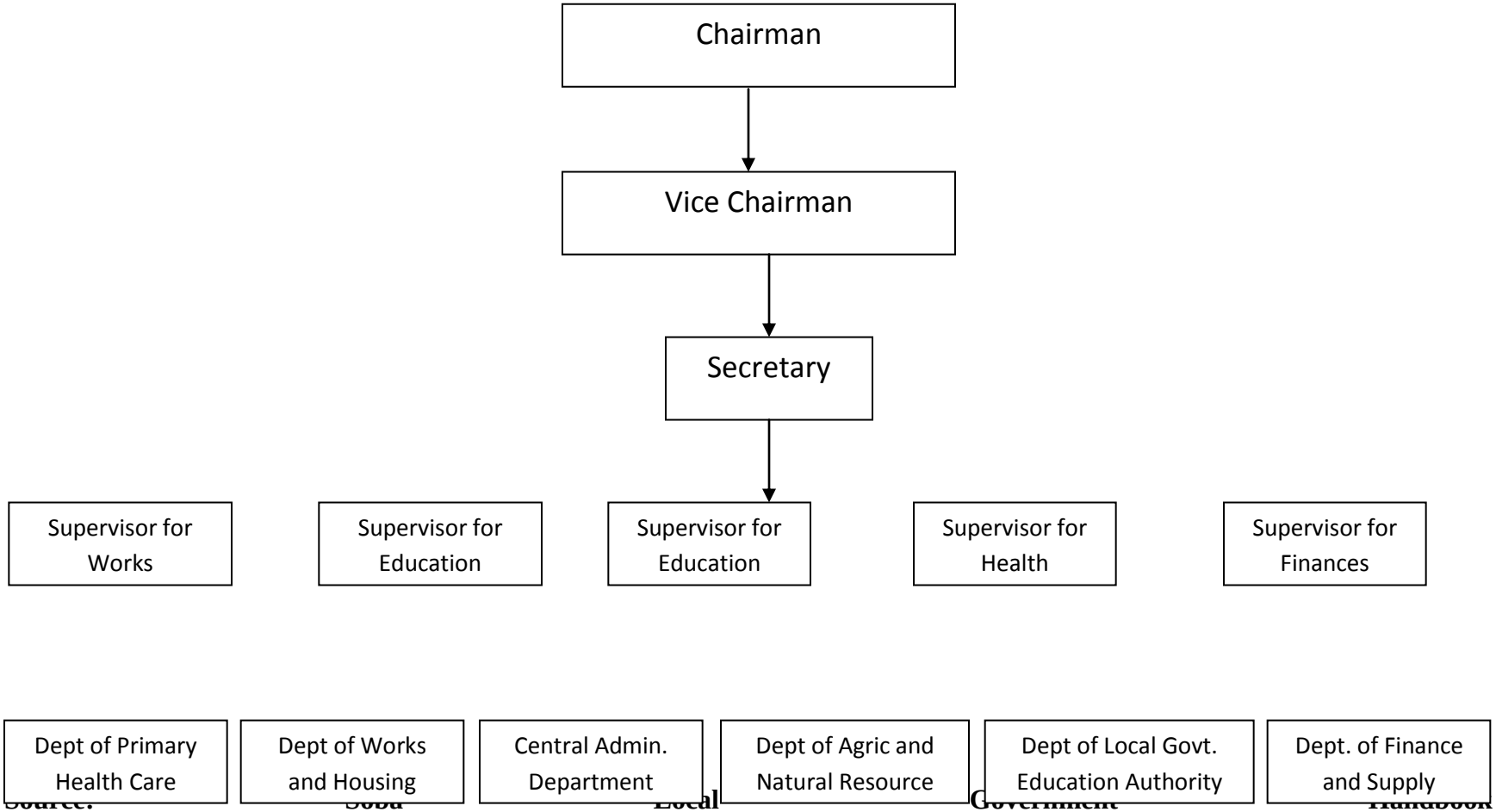
An organization is the element which determines the most orderly ways of getting things done or a group of people coming to work together; it is a necessary structure that puts people into working order. The structure of any organization is not static but constantly changing therefore, it is usually influenced by the society changes and demands the organization's structure on its

area of specialization. For instance, vertically integrated or line organization, line and staff or specialist organization are some of the patterns that are used to establish an organizational structure which is also known as organizational chart.

Important execution of any programme of predetermined objective of any organization depends largely upon how its structure is articulated. The organizational structure of any private or public set-up is not only a sketch that shows the superior-subordinate relationship but it enunciates the individual officer's functional responsibility; it guides both the staff and customers alike about whom to refer to any matter. Similarly, the respect with the constituted authority exerts is inherent in a well-designed organizational structure.

The sketch below show the organizational structure of Soba Local Government Area of Kaduna State:

Fig. 3.1: Organization Structure of Soba Local Government



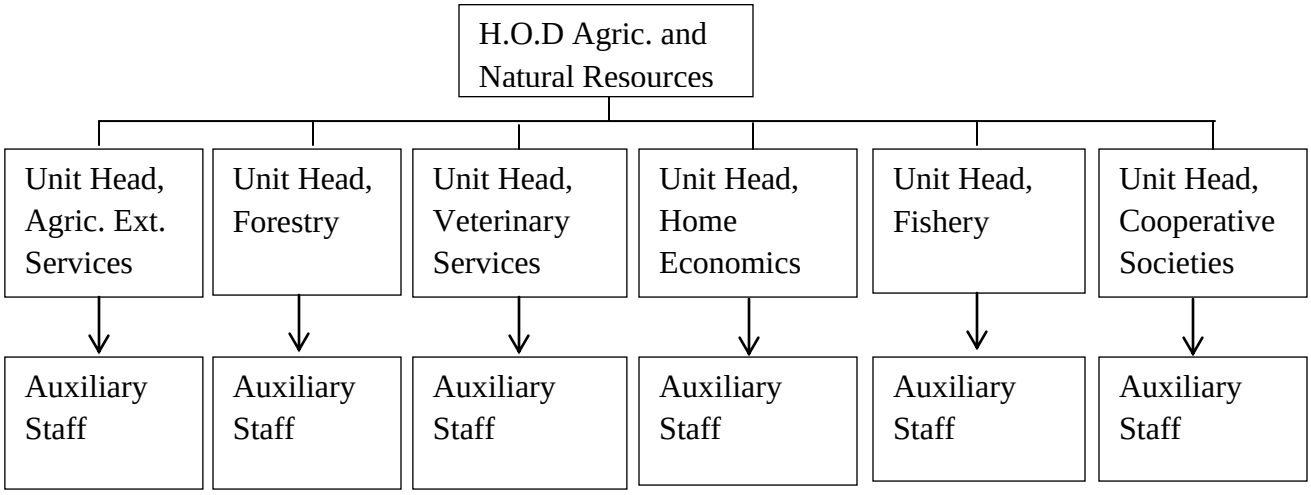
Source: Soba Local Government Handbook

The responsibility of each department since the creation of Soba local government is discussed below. It has the above structured departments which perform the following functions in the local Government in different perspective, the department are: office of chairman, secretary, central administration, works and housing, agriculture and natural resources, primary health care service, finance and supply and education authority department.

Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources

The department has a supervisory councilor who liaise the activities of the department with the council, and headed by a Head of Department (HOD). The department has some units which operate within and headed by sectional heads that reports their activities and recommends to the head of department. The units are: agriculture extension services, forestry, veterinary services, home economics, and fishery and cooperative societies. The organization structure of the department is given below:

Fig. 3.2: Organization Structure of Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Soba Local Government, Kaduna State



Source: Soba Local Government Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2015

The Department of Agriculture is headed by a H.O.D who report to the office of the Chairman. Below the office of the head are different unit heads of agriculture extension services, forestry, veterinary services, home economics, fishery and cooperative societies who report directly to the Head of Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources while auxiliary staff in each of the Units report to their respective Unit Heads.

The department is charged with the following responsibilities.

i. They are responsible for educating the peasant farmers on new development on farming;
ii. They are responsible for production of Nursing plants especially the economic trees;
iii. They are to educate the public on problems and hazard of domestic animals i.e. veterinary services;
iv. Training of woman in various hand works;
v. They are to encourage and promote the importance of irrigation schemes;
vi. They are responsible for offering tractor services; and
vii. They recommend their staff for promotion and training to the local government.

4.5 Inputs Support, Extension Services and Machinery Supplied to Farmers in Soba Local Government Area of Kaduna State

The effort of Soba local government at improving agriculture gives more priority to fertilizer purchase and supply, insecticides, pesticides and herbicides, improved seedlings, purchase and hiring out of machines including tractors, ploughs, hand pump machines etc. These are discussed below.

Available information shows that theDepartment of Agriculture and Natural Resources usually allocates a chunk of money in its annual budget to the agriculture department where a minimum of 40% and above is budgeted for the procurement and distribution of fertilizer to farmers.The fertilizer that is procured and distributed to farmers is usually below the marketprice to ensure that all farmers are able to afford the prices.This has been proven to have contributed immensely

in boostingagricultural productivity in the area (Soba Local Government Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2015).

As part of the inputs support and to ensure improvement and the development of agriculture in Soba local government area, each of the five district is allocated ten (10) tractors as well as ploughs by the local government council, purchased to be hired by interested farmers to advance their farming activities and increase their overall productivity. The tractors and ploughs according to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, are only given to registered cooperative groups within the five districts, all in an effort to increase the vast of land to be cultivated by farmers as well as their total or annual outputs (Soba Local Government Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2015)..

On extension services, extension education programmes are organized on regular basis for the rural farmer through the Department via agricultural extension office and extension workers. The farmers in the local government are given extension services within their locality for easy adaption and applicability of extension knowledge and skills to their farming activities. The essence of the extension services according to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Soba Local Government includes: to bring information to the farmers concerning new development which can be applied to the increased agricultural production, such as the use of fertilizers, improved breed of livestock, improved crop varieties, animal feeds, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and farm mechanization; to instruct farmers on new farming techniques such as the most ideal rime of planting and harvesting, crop

spacing, fertilizers application, drainage and irrigation, crop rotation, crop and livestock production and basic soil conservation principles; to teach farmers good farming management practices, efficient marketing channels, better processing, storage, grading and transportation of agricultural proceeds; to encourage leadership qualities and cooperative living among farmers and enable them adopt new ideas; and to raise the social status of the farmers through basic health education.

Agricultural extension workers from the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resource from times to time visits local farmers and in some cases uses the local government demonstration farms to teach farmers on how to adopt and apply modern farming practices. The Department of Agriculture and natural Resources provides information to the farmers using pamphlets, posters, handbills, radio talks, film shows and lectures sometimes. They may also organize annual farmers' festivals and agricultural shows. They also inspire the formation of farmers clubs and cooperative societies where they are provided with financial and material supports from the local government.

The Agriculture and Natural Resource Department set up demonstration farms to explain to its farmers how to apply new techniques of farming. At present, the local government has more than ten (10) functional demonstration farms with two (2) in each of the districts (Soba Local Government Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2015). The local government also provides improved seedlings of varieties of crops and uses the demonstration farms to showcase the ability of the new seedlings to yield more outputs to farmers before they are sold or

distributed to the individual farmers at subsidized prices. The local government also supplies pesticides and herbicides to local farmers. Before they are sold or distributed to farmers, the local government through the Agriculture and Natural Resource Department ensures that they are first applied in the demonstration farms.

As part of its effort to boost agricultural productivity in the local government area, the local government normally purchases and distributes water pumps to irrigation farmers specifically to encourage dry season farming. The purchase and distribution of water pumps is done depending on the demands of local farmers who have to make a request to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Except for the purchase and supply of fertilizer to local farmers where the local government council through the Department ensures that at least 40% of its budget is set aside for the procurement and distribution of fertilizer, the expenditure of the Department on other inputs is hardly fixed at any pecking order. In fact, even the purchase and supply of fertilizer schedule including financing is at some material times subject to reviews. The expenditure of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources hardly takes a specific definable pattern (Soba Local Government Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2015).

4.6 Types of Crops Grown, Methods of Farming and Production of Crops and Animals in Soba Local Government Area of Kaduna State

Soba local government area is endowed with a very rich lands and waters bodies in some specific areas which support the cultivation of food and cash crops, growing of livestock and poultry production. It is however instructive to note that the local

government area has two distinct seasons, i.e. wet and dry season. The wet season which is also called the rainy season starts from April to October (and in some cases, March-October) usually lasts for six (6) months and normally supports the growing of crops such as maize, rice, wheat, cassava, soya beans, millet, tomatoes, vegetables, yam, etc. Also, crops such as benniseed, pepper, sweat potatoes, cotton, and sugarcane are also produce during the rainy season.

During the dry season, farmers in the local government engages in the production of such crops as tomatoes, onions, lettuce, carrots, cabbage, fruits such as mangoes, pawpaw, guava, orange, cashew and bananas.

Poultry and livestock farming is also been practiced in Soba Local Government area. However, poultry is normally and in most cases cultivated at home in small holdings by certain households while others do engage in large scale production using carved out farms specifically for poultry. Animals such as cows, goats, rams, etc. are reared in the local government area both by indigenes and settlers who are mostly transient Fulanis from other parts of the Northern states. The animals normally feeds on available grasses within the locality of owners while others such as the Fulanis whose primary occupation is rearing of animals grazes and feeds their animals on virgin and uncultivated lands field with green grasses and close to available water sources.

The major method agricultural practices in Soba local government area include:

Mixed Farming: This method or practice is used by farmers in Soba local government area where farmersgrow crops and raise animals in the same land.

However, this practice is mostly in small scale farm; a few animals and a small area for crops or on alarge scale farm with many animals and a large area for growingcrops.

Bush Fallowing/Shifting Cultivation: Farmers in Soba local government area also plant crops for a numbers of years and shift to another land to enable the first land fallow and regain its fertility. That is, abandoned so that it is allowed to grow into bush again. This is one of the common practices in Soba local government area.

Pastoral Farming: The intensive system of livestock production in which various types of livestock production are raised by keeping and feeding them indoor or outdoor through grazing is common practices in Soba local government area. Livestock mostly reared in Soba local government area include cattle, goats, sheeps, poultry and fish farming.

4.7 The Contributions of Agriculture to Economic Development of Soba Local Government Area of Kaduna State

Just a agriculture is still the mainstay of the Nigeria economy given the fact that over 75% of Nigerians lives in rural areas and engage in form of agricultural practices or the other, likewise the significance of the sector to local government area cannot be overemphasized. This is moreso as majority (approximately 80-85%) of the people in the local government area population depends directly or indirectly on agriculture as their source of livelihood. agriculture serves as a major source of employment opportunities for majority of people in the local government area.

As a corollary of above, it also serves as the major source of income generation activity for local farmers and food for the teaming population. It also provide the raw materials for agro-based industries like flour-mills and the ginger processing industry and market industrial goods like insecticides and fertilizers. This has also contributed to

Though majority of farmers in Soba local government area are subsistence and small holders who are spread across the local government area, the cultivation of such lands in a nutshell has contributed to employment generation, income generation as well provides domestic foods for the populace. They employ a system of long-term rotation called shift cultivation which involves alternating a period of cropping with a period of bush fallowing. The length of the fallow period is dependent on the fertility of the soil and the availability of land. The level of technology employed in the traditional system of farming is very low and as a result, the yields are also low.

4.8 Problems of Agricultural Development in Soba LocalGovernment Area of Kaduna State

There are various problems facing agricultural sector in Soba local government area of Kaduna state. They are briefly explained below.

There is shortage of agricultural extension staff to carry the result of such research to the farmers in the rural areas which cripples and reduces productivity of farmers. Even the available extension workers are not well-trained.

There is also high rate of illiteracy and conservative attitude among majority of farmers in Soba local government area. Most of the farmers are resistant to change in the form of

adoption and utilization of new farming techniques as well as use of hybrid seedlings.

There is lack of processing industries and adequate storage facilities. There are only few cottage industries in the local government area and storage facilities are not available in the local government area except for those owned and operated by private individuals.

There is short supply of farms inputs such as fertilizer, machinery, improved seedlings, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, etc. Though these inputs are supplied to farmers, they fall short of meeting the farm inputs needs of farmers across the local government area.

There is also problem of access to microcredit scheme of the local government and other microfinance finance banks across the local government area due to high interest rates attached beside other strict conditionalities to the loans which cannot be easily met by poor rural farmers in Soba local government area. This has made agricultural expansion very rare. The local government is very reluctant in supporting farmers by relaxing some of the conditionalities attached to its microcredit scheme.

Though there are markets in most communities in the local government, the markets are uncoordinated. The farm produce are sold at arbitrary prices; they are basically determine by the buyers in many markets across the local government. This reduces the aggregate income that local farmers could generate though the sale of their farm produce and this discourages many young people from taking agriculture as an occupation.

There is also absence of appropriate technology and environmental hazard. The technology being used by farmers in Soba local government is either moribund or not suitable for the environment and therefore inhibits increase productivity of farmers. Most areas in the local government area

are affected by deep gully erosion. Rainfall normally flood away farmlands across the local government area and in some cases wash away cultivated farmlands.

CHAPTER FIVE:

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter deals with the presentation and analysis of data collected from the field through the use of the instrument of questionnaire and secondary sources from the records of the local government. In presenting the data, tables and percentage method were used, while using chi-square distribution to test hypotheses as well as employing qualitative analysis to explain the distribution of frequencies and percentages from the various responses.

5.2 Presentation and Analysis of Primary Data

Data and information collected through questionnaires and interviews are presented and analyzed below. The presentation and analysis enabled the researcher to invalidate or refuse to accept the research hypotheses for the study. The questionnaires were administered by the researcher and with the help of some research assistants in order to ensure that all questionnaires were duly completed and returned. To be sure we have the exact number of sample questionnaires completed and returned for analysis, we administered 230 questionnaires and selected 220 valid, duly completed and returned questionnaires which we used for this chapter.

Section "A": Bio Data of Respondents

Table 5.1: Gender of Respondents

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	209	95
Female	11	5
Total	220	100

Field Survey, 2015

From the table above, 209 respondents representing 95% are male while 11 respondents representing 5% are female. This simply means that majority of our respondents are male.

Table 5.2: Occupation of Respondents

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Farmers	132	60
Trader	57	25.91
Civil Servant	18	8.18
Student	13	5.91
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

The table above shows that 132 respondents representing 60% are farmers, 57 respondents representing 25.91% are traders, 18 respondents representing 8.18% are civil servants while 13 respondents representing 15.8% are students. This indicates that most of the respondents are farmers in various agricultural activities in Soba local government. Some of the respondents who are traders, civil servants and students also say they are into agriculture as well.

Table 5.3: Age Distribution of respondents

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18-25	23	10.45
26-35	64	20.09
36-45	71	32.27
46-55	44	20
56 and above	18	8.18
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

From the table above, 23 respondents representing 10.45% are within the age bracket of 18-25, 64 respondents representing 20.09% are within 26-35, 71 respondents representing 32.27 are within 36-45, 44 respondents representing 20% are within 46-55 while 18 respondents representing 8.18% are between 56 years and above. This simply means that majority of the respondents are within the age bracket of 36-45 years of age.

Section B: Agricultural Practices and Activities in Soba Local Government Area

Table 5.4: Which among these types of agricultural system do you practice?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Crop farming	107	46.64
Animal rearing	52	23.64
Poultry	19	8.64
Fishery	16	7.27
Others	26	11.82
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.4 above shows that 107 respondents representing 46.64% are engaging in crop farming, 52 respondents representing 23.64% are in animal rearing, 19 respondents representing 8.64% are in poultry, 16 respondents representing 8.64% in fishery while 26 respondents are in other agricultural practices within the local government. This indicates that most people in the local government are in crop farming compares to other agricultural practices.

Table 5.5: Agriculture is the major source of livelihood to you

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	220	100
No	-	-
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.5 indicates that 220 respondents representing 100% agreed that agriculture is the major source of livelihood to them while none disagree. This means that agriculture is the major source of livelihood to the respondents and by implication many people in Soba local government.

Table 5.6: Agriculture has provided employment and opens up job opportunities for people in the rural communities

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	207	94.09
No	13	5.91
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.6 shows that 207 respondents representing 94.09% agreed that agriculture has provided employment and opens up opportunities for people while 13 respondents representing 5.91% disagree. This simply entails that agriculture has provided employment and opens up job opportunities for people in the rural communities within Soba local government.

Table 5.7: Agriculture has contributed to increase in the income of people (farmers) in your locality

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	213	96.82
No	7	3.18
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.7 indicates that 213 respondents representing 96.82% agreed that agriculture has contributed to increase in income of people while 7 respondents representing 3.18% disagree. This shows that agriculture has contributed to and is still contributing to increase in the income of farmers in Soba local government area of Kaduna state.

From the interviews conducted with staff of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and some farmers across the five districts, the staff of the Department asserted that farmers in the local government area engages in various agricultural practices and activities including crop farming, animal rearing, poultry, fishery among others. They however averred that most of people in the local government area are full time crop farmers producing both food and cash crops. The farmers interviewed also maintained that majority of farmers in the local government area crop farmers; producing either cash or food crops such as groundnuts, yam, millet, guinea corn, onions, sugarcane, cocoyam, rice, potatoes, water leaf, water melon, pepper, among other crops.

In consonance with questionnaires presented analyzed above, the Head of Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources specifically maintained that agriculture remains the major occupation i.e. a source of employment for most people in the local government area and a very lucrative source of income to many households in the localities and is facilitated through the local government support. In fact, the farmers interviewed also asserted that agriculture opens up opportunity for productive engagement amongst the youths and the elderly i.e. agriculture is a veritable source of employment for majority of its populace and has served as a major source of income to farmers across the local government area.

The interviewed farmers however asserted that more needs to be done in order to attract the younger ones and specifically the upcoming generations to see sense in agriculture as the world particularly Nigeria is seeing the relevance of the development of agriculture to job creation, income generation, and industrialization and providing foods to feed the growing population of the world. This will help to reduce unemployment and poverty.

Section C: Relationship between Agriculture and Economic Development in Soba Local Government Area of Kaduna State

Table 5.8: Agriculture has been the main source of employment to many in your locality

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	116	52.73
Agree	35	15.91
Undecided	13	5.91
Disagree	51	23.18
Strongly disagree	5	2.27
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

From table 5.8 above, 116 respondents representing 52.73% strongly agree that agriculture has been the main source of employment to many in their locality, 35 respondents representing 15.91% agree, 13 respondents representing 5.91% were undecided, 51 respondents representing 23.18% disagree while 5 respondents representing 2.27% strongly disagree. This means agriculture has been the main source of employment to many people in Soba local government.

Table 5.9: Increasing agricultural productivity among farmers has enhanced opportunities for more income generation by farmers

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	129	58.64
Agree	53	24.09
Undecided	5	2.27
Disagree	6	2.28
Strongly disagree	27	12.27
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.9 above shows that 129 respondents representing 58.64% strongly agree that increasing agricultural productivity among farmers has enhanced opportunities for more income generation by farmers in their locality, 53 respondents representing 24.09% agree, 5 respondents

representing 2.27% were undecided, 6 respondents representing 2.28% disagree while 27 respondents representing 12.27% strongly disagree. This is an indication that increasing agricultural productivity among farmers has enhanced opportunities for more income generation by farmers in Soba local government.

Table 5.10: Agriculture has been relevant in providing income being used by farmers in providing and promoting health and educational status of their households

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	105	47.73
Agree	61	27.73
Undecided	11	5
Disagree	26	11.82
Strongly disagree	17	7.73
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.10 above indicates that 105 respondents representing 47.73% strongly agree that agriculture has been relevant in providing income being used by farmers in providing and promoting health and educational status of many households, 61 respondents representing 27.73% agree, 11 respondents representing 5% were undecided, 26 respondents representing 11.82% disagree while 17 respondents representing 7.73% strongly disagree. This also shows that agriculture has been relevant in providing income being used by farmers in providing and promoting health and educational status of many households in Soba local government.

Table 5.11: Food and nutritional upliftment of households in this locality has been with the help of increasing agricultural productivity among farmers

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	64	29.09
Agree	55	25
Undecided	43	19.55
Disagree	26	11.82
Strongly disagree	32	14.55
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

From table 5.11 above, 64 respondents representing 29.09% strongly agree that food and nutritional upliftment of households in this locality has been with the help of increasing agricultural productivity among farmers, 55 respondents representing 25% agree, 43 respondents representing 19.55% were undecided, 26 respondents representing 11.82% disagree while 32 respondents representing 14.55% strongly disagree. This indicates that food and nutritional upliftment of households in the local government has been with the help of increasing agricultural productivity among farmers.

Table 5.12: Soba local government provide agricultural research and findings to people in this locality

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	123	55.91
No	97	44.09
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.12 shows that 123 respondents representing 55.91% agreed that the local government provide agricultural research and findings to them, while 97 respondents representing 44.09%

disagree. This indicates that Soba local government provide and make available its agricultural research and findings to people within its area of jurisdiction.

Table 5.13: The local government provides extension services to farmers in this locality

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	111	50.45
No	109	49.55
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

From table 5.13 above, 111 respondents representing 50.45% agreed that the local government provides extension services to them while 109 respondents representing 49.55% disagree. This entails that Soba local government provides agricultural extension services to people within its area of jurisdiction though the distribution of responses is also an indication that more needed to be done in the area of provision of agricultural extension services to farmers.

Table 5.14: The local government has microfinance credit scheme for farmers

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	147	66.82
No	73	33.18
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.14 above indicates that 147 respondents representing 66.82% agree that the local government has a microfinance scheme for them while 73 respondents representing 33.18% disagree. This means that Soba local government have microfinance scheme for people within its area of jurisdiction.

Table 5.15: What is the microfinance credit scheme attached with

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Free interest rate	15	6.82
Low interest rate	76	34.55
High interest rate	129	58.64
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.15 shows that 15 respondents representing 6.82% says that the microfinance scheme is attached with free interest rate, 76 respondents representing 34.55% says it comes with low interest rate while 129 respondents representing 58.64% argues that the scheme comes with high interest rate. This indicates that Soba local government microfinance scheme for people within its area of jurisdiction comes with high interest rate as far the respondents are concerned.

Table 5.16: The local government provides farm inputs such fertilizer, insecticides, improved seedlings among others for farmers

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	113	51.36
No	107	48.64
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.16 shows that 113 respondents representing 51.36% agree that the local government provides farm input for them while 107 respondents representing 48.64% disagree. This means that Soba local government provides farm inputs such fertilizer, insecticides, improved seedlings among others to the farmers but it is instructive to observe that the distribution of responses could be an indication that the farm inputs are inadequate to reach most farmers in the local government area.

Table 5.17: The input supplies are adequate enough

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	31	14.09
No	189	85.91
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.17 above indicates that 31 respondents representing 14.09% agree that the farm inputs being supply are adequate while 189 respondents representing 85.91% disagree. This simply means that the farm inputs being supplied by Soba local government to farmers are grossly inadequate to meet their farming needs.

Table 5.18: The local government has been supporting agriculture immensely

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	98	44.55
No	122	55.45
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

From table 5.18 above, 98 respondents representing 44.55% agree that the local government has been supporting agriculture while 122 respondents representing 55.45% disagree. This indicates that the local government has not been supporting agriculture but we can also deduce from the distribution of responses above that Soba local government has, though to a lesser extent, been supporting agricultural development.

Table 5.19: Local government support for agricultural development is responsible for increase agricultural productivity

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	37	16.82
No	183	83.18
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.19 shows that 37 respondents representing 16.82% agree that local government support for agricultural development is responsible for increase agricultural productivity of farmers while 183 respondents representing 55.45% disagree. This indicates that local government support for agricultural development is not responsible for increase agricultural productivity of farmers within the local government area.

Table 5.20: You own the land in which you are cultivating

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	115	52.27
No	105	47.73
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

From table 5.20 above, 115 respondents representing 52.279% agree that they own the land which they are currently cultivating while 105 respondents representing 47.73% disagree. This is also indication that majority of people in the local government own the land they are cultivating on but we can also infer from the distribution of responses that more land is needed to be made available to farmers in Soba local government.

Table 5.21: How do you get the land you are cultivating on?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Family	125	56.82
Hiring	78	35.45
Other	17	7.73
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.21 above shows that 125 respondents representing 56.82% says that they inherit their land, 78 respondents representing 35.45% says they got their land through hiring while 17 respondents representing 7.73% got their land from other sources. This is an indication that most people in the local government cultivates on family land.

Table 5.22: Agriculture in this locality if meant for?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Household consumption	33	15
Income generation	49	22.27
All of the above	138	62.73
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.22 indicates that 33 respondents representing 15% says that agriculture is meant for household consumption in their locality, 49 respondents representing 22.27% says it is for income generation while 138 respondents representing 62.73% says it is all of the above. This shows that agriculture in Soba local government is meant both for household consumption and income generation among households.

Table 5.23: The cultivation of farmlands and other farm works are undertaken with

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Family labour	41	18.64
Hired labour	15	6.82
Both A and B	164	74.55
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.23 above shows that 41 respondents representing 18.64% says that the cultivation of farmlands and other farm works are undertaken with family labour in their locality, 15 respondents representing 6.82% says with hired labour while 164 respondents representing 74.55% says they combined both the two. This simply entails that the cultivation of farmlands and other farm works are undertaken using both family and hired labour in Soba local government area of Kaduna state.

Table 5.24: What type of farming do people in the locality practice?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Raining season	92	41.82
Irrigation	43	19.55
All of the above	85	38.64
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.24 indicates that 92 respondents representing 41.82% says that they do more of raining farming in their locality, 43 respondents representing 19.55% says irrigation while 85 respondents representing 38.64% says it is all of the above. This means that most people in the local government engage in raining season farming but it is also possible that many engages in raining season and irrigation farming and this we infer from the distribution of responses above.

Table 5.25: Which of these implements/instruments do people use for farming in this area?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Hoe	56	25.45
Animal-driven	67	30.45
Mechanical	34	15.45
Both A, B and C	63	28.65
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.25 above shows that 56 respondents representing 25.45% says that the cultivation of farmlands and other farm works are undertaken with hoes in their locality, 67 respondents representing 30.45% says with animal driven instruments, 34 respondents representing 15.45 says with mechanical implements while 63 respondents representing 28.65% says they combined all the implements. This indicates farmers in Soba local government used animal-driven implements most among other instruments for farming purposes.

Table 5.26: How do you market your produce?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Transport to the market	61	27.73
Sell at home	69	31.36
All of the above	90	40.91
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

From table 5.26 above, 61 respondents representing 27.73% says they normally take their farm produce to market for sell, 69 respondents representing 31.36% says they sell at home while 90 respondents representing 40.91% says all of the above. This simply entails that farmers in Soba local government either take their farm produce to market or sell them at home.

Table 5.27: Are you satisfied with the price level of your farm produce if compares to the cost of production of such produce?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	9	4.09
No	211	95.91
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.27 above shows that 9 respondents representing 4.09% says that they are satisfied with the price level of their farm produce while 211 respondents representing 95.91% disagree. This indicates that farmers are not satisfied with the price level of their farm produce if compares to the cost of production of such produce in Soba local government.

During the interview session undertaken with the staff of Agriculture and Natural Resources, they maintained that agriculture has contributed immensely to economic development of the local government area. The Unit Heads extension services and home economics opined that the local government has provided support to local farmers which has made agriculture contributed job creation, income generation, provides food for members of the general public and this was also supported by the Head of Department. The farmers interviewed in the five districts also opines that agriculture has contributed to economic development of the local government area because the income generated through the sale of agricultural produce by local farmers is used to provide for their health, education among other needs as well as assisting in uplifting nutritional status of most households in the local government area.

The Head of Department also says that the local government has supported agricultural development in the local government through the purchase and distribution of fertilizer to local farmers, building of markets, construction of slaughter slabs, construction of veterinary clinics

and supply of veterinary drugs, rendering of extension services to farmers. He further maintained that insecticides, improved seedlings and microcredit scheme at low interest rate are among other supports the local government provides to those engage in agricultural practices within the local government area. The farmers supported the assertion of the staff of agriculture department but however averred that the support given by the local government does not go round farmers and other engaged in other agricultural practices within the local government area. They specifically complaint that fertilizer has always been in short supply and in many occasion, the fertilizer comes when farmers needed it less particularly the time for application of the fertilizer has passed. They also contended that the microcredit scheme is not good enough to encourage farmers to engage in large scale. The microcredit according to the farmers ranges from N20, 000 to N30, 000 which to them is with 10-15% interest rate which is on the high side.

Section D: Agricultural Problems and Possible Solutions

Table 5.28: Which among these is a major agricultural problem to economic development?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Lack of farm inputs	22	10
Lack of microcredit scheme	12	5.45
Inappropriate technology	8	3.64
Environmental hazard	11	5
All of the above	167	75.91
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.28 above indicates that 22 respondents representing 10% says lack of farm inputs is a major problem to agricultural productivity, 12 respondents representing 5.45% says lack of microcredit scheme, 8 respondents representing 3.64% says inappropriate technology, 11

respondents representing 5% says environmental hazard while 167 respondents representing 75.91% says all of the above. This simply means that all the aforementioned are major problems that limit agricultural contribution to economic development in Soba local government.

Table 5.29: Overdependence on imported agricultural food items is a problem to promoting agricultural productivity for economic development

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	193	87.73
No	27	12.27
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.29 above shows that 193 respondents representing 87.73% says that importation of food items reduce the contribution of agriculture to economic development while 27 respondents representing 12.27% disagree. This is a clear indication and a feeling among many Nigerians that overdependence on imported agricultural food items is a problem to promoting agricultural productivity for economic development in Nigeria.

Table 5.30: Adequate provision of farm inputs can increase the agricultural productivity and the contribution of agriculture to economic development

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	201	91.36
No	19	8.64
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.30 above indicates that 201 respondents representing 91.36% says that increase in supply of farm inputs to farmers can increase the contribution of agriculture to economic development while 19 respondents representing 8.64% disagree. This shows that adequate provision of farm

inputs to farmers can increase the agricultural productivity and the contribution of agriculture to economic development in Soba, Kaduna and Nigeria at large.

Table 5.31: Land reform is important to increasing agricultural productivity among farmers and by implication its contribution to economic development

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	165	75
No	65	25
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

From table 5.31 above, 165 respondents representing 75% says that land reform is important and can increase the contribution of agriculture to economic development while 65 respondents representing 25% disagree. This indicates that land reform is important to increasing agricultural productivity among farmers and by implication its contribution to economic development.

Table 5.32: Effective agricultural extension services can facilitate increase in agricultural productivity and the contribution of agriculture to economic development

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	188	85.45
No	32	14.55
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

From table 5.32 above, 188 respondents representing 85.45% says that effective agricultural extension services can facilitate productivity and increase the contribution of agriculture to economic development while 32 respondents representing 14.55% disagree. This goes on to show that effective agricultural extension services can facilitate increase in agricultural productivity and the contribution of agriculture to economic development.

Table 5.33: How can these be felt?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Increase productivity	47	21.36
Increase income	56	25.45
Increase welfare	41	18.64
All of the above	76	34.55
Total	220	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.33 indicates that 47 respondents representing 21.36% says that increase agricultural extension services will lead to increase productivity, 56 respondents representing 25.45% says it will increase income of farmers, 41 respondents representing 18.64% says it will increase welfare while 76 respondents representing 34.55 says all of the above. This simply means that increasing agricultural extension services will increase productivity, income as well as welfare of farmers in Soba local government area of Kaduna state.

In an interview with staff of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, they identify inadequacy of farm inputs, inadequacy of micro credit scheme and high interest rate attached to it, lack of appropriate technology, environmental hazard such flooding and erosion, low pricing of farmers produce, lack of available and modern markets, lack of good roads for farmers to transport their farm produce to urban well-priced markets, including conservative attitudes of farmers as some of the majors challenges of agricultural development. Farmers interviewed also mentioned agreed with the staff of the local government but however differs that they have been open to change and accept every new farming techniques that will improve their productivity.

They however called on the local government to support them by reducing the interest rate to maximum of 5% and the amount to be obtained by the farmers should be increased to a

minimum of N100, 000. They also suggested that the local government should purchase and distribute fertilizer and other farm inputs earlier enough to enable farmers to enable them use them when it is needed most. Standard markets should be constructed close to all agrarian communities to sell their farm produce without transportation cost. There is also need for price control to ensure that farmers do not sell below their cost of cultivating and harvesting the farm produce. The farmers also want the local government to build dams to encourage dry season farming which to them is even more lucrative. They also want roads to be constructed to link agrarian communities with other parts of the state where farm produce are sold at better price.

5.3: Presentation and Analysis of Secondary Data

The secondary data presented and analyzed under this section is from Soba Local Government Summary of Estimates of Capital Expenditure within the period under review (2010-2014). The breakdown of capital expenditure to Soba Local Government Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources is discussed below.

Table 5.34: Soba Local Government Summary of Estimates of Capital Expenditure on Agriculture, 2010

Head	Details of Expenditure	Appropriated Estimates (N)	Approved Appropriation (N)
4001	Agriculture and Rural Development	11,500,000	10,000,000
4002	Livestock	9,000,000	7,000,000
4003	Forestry	300,000	200,000
4004	Fisheries	7,000,000	6,500,000
Grand Total		27,800,000	23,700,000

Source: Soba Local Government Finance Department, 2016

From table 5.34 above, N27, 800,000 was the approved estimates but only N23, 700,000 was the approved appropriation. The amount; approved appropriation was spent on the following:

community-based agricultural and rural development programmes, microcredit scheme, procurement and distribution of fertilizer including payment for fertilizer subsidy, renovation of veterinary clinic in Maigana, cattle routes demarcation across the local government, purchase of agro-chemicals, improved seedlings and farm implements, supply of veterinary drugs to veterinary clinic in Kinkiba etc.

Table 5.35: Soba Local Government Summary of Estimates of Capital Expenditure on Agriculture, 2011

Head	Details of Expenditure	Appropriated Estimates (N)	Approved Appropriation (N)
4001	Agriculture and Rural Development	4,500,000	3,200,000
4002	Livestock	3,000,000	1,500,000
4003	Forestry	1,000,000	500,000
4004	Fisheries	1,500,000	1,000,000
Grand Total		10,000,000	6,200,000

Source: Soba Local Government Finance Department, 2016

Table 5.35 above shows that N10, 000,000 was the approved estimates while only N6, 200,000 was the approved appropriation. The approved appropriation was spent on community-based agricultural and rural development programmes, supply of veterinary drugs to veterinary clinics, microcredit scheme for the general public, procurement and distribution of fertilizer farmers at subsidized prices, cattle routes demarcation, purchase of agro-chemicals, improved seedlings, farm implements, and purchase of tractors for hiring. This budget was made less effort to boost the agricultural sector when compares to 2010 approved appropriation.

Table 5.36: Soba Local Government Summary of Estimates of Capital Expenditure on Agriculture, 2012

Head	Details of Expenditure	Appropriated Estimates (N)	Approved Appropriation (N)
4001	Agriculture and Rural Development	7,800,000	5,400,000
4002	Livestock	4,500,00	4,000,000
4003	Forestry	3,100,000	1,500,000
4004	Fisheries	6,000,000	5,000,000
Grand Total		21,400,000	15,900,000

Source: Soba Local Government Finance Department, 2016

Table 5.36 above indicates that N21, 400,000 was the approved estimates while N15, 900,000 was the approved appropriation. The approved appropriation was spent on the following: raising of nurseries for sale to farmers, construction of slaughter slab in Wanka and Turawa, community-based agricultural and rural development programmes, procurement and distribution of fertilizer to farmers at subsidized prices, demarcation of cattle routes, and purchase of agro-chemicals, improved seedlings, microcredit scheme and farm implements. This is also an improvement from the previous budget of the local government; however, according to the Head of Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, there was interference from the local government council when fertilizer was purchased for distribution to farmers. He averred that most farmers got fertilizer from the local government in 2012 even without being registered farmers with the council due to political as well as administrative influences including pressure from traditional rulers across the local government area.

Table 5.37: Soba Local Government Summary of Estimates of Capital Expenditure on Agriculture, 2013

Head	Details of Expenditure	Appropriated Estimates (N)	Approved Appropriation (N)
4001	Agriculture and Rural Development	5,800,000	3,300,000
4002	Livestock	5,000,000	2,000,000
4003	Forestry	1,000,000	450,000
4004	Fisheries	2,200,000	2,000,000
Grand Total		13,000,000	9,350,000

Source: Soba Local Government Finance Department, 2016

From table 5.37 above, N13, 000,000 was the approved estimates while N9, 350,000 was the approved appropriation. The approved appropriation was spent on renovation of markets in five communities across the local government including Fagaci, Damari, Ungwa Maude, UngwaKwari and Marwa, raising of nurseries for sell to farmers, community-based agricultural and rural development programmes, procurement and distribution of fertilizer to farmers at subsidized prices, and purchase of agro-chemicals, improved seedlings and farm implements.

Table 5.38: Soba Local Government Summary of Estimates of Capital Expenditure on Agriculture, 2014

Head	Details of Expenditure	Appropriated Estimates (N)	Approved Appropriation (N)
4001	Agriculture and Rural Development	11,500,00	5,500,00
4002	Livestock	3,000,000	2,500,000
4003	Forestry	2,000,000	800,000
4004	Fisheries	7,600,000	4,700,000
Grand Total		24,100,000	20,700,000

Source: Soba Local Government Finance Department, 2016

Table 5.38 above shows that N24, 100,000 was the approved estimates but only 20,700,000 was the approved appropriation. The approved appropriation was spent on the following: community-based agricultural and rural development programmes, procurement and distribution of fertilizer, where fertilizer subsidy was given more priority, cattle routes demarcation, purchase agro-

chemicals, improved seedlings and farm implements, construction of storage facilities for hiring by farmers in UngwaMafera, HayinAllahuwa, UngwaKanawa, UngwaAlewa, Madarzai, Ung. Madaki, TurawaGari and Ung.Garga. The Head of Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources explained that the construction of these storage facilities is envisaged by the local government as a long term project where appropriation are going to be made in successive budgets to ensure that these facilities are available for farmers to utilize within. He however maintained the actualization of the project depends on political will since the political structure which remains unstable and subject to frequent changes at the local government level normally and rarely continue projects initiated by their predecessors. He asserted since the commencement of some of the projects in these communities, progress has been slow due to the fact that budgetary allocations to the department for capital expenditure have been cut down drastically.

5.4 Test of Hypotheses

In order to test the research hypotheses, we used the chi-square statistical tools to analyze the data in order to accept or reject the research hypotheses which we earlier on stated in chapter one. The hypotheses were tested using data found to be relevant to them from initial data presented and analyzed using tables and simple percentages.

Test of Hypothesis One:

There is no significant relationship between local government support and increase agricultural productivity in Soba local government area of Kaduna state

In testing hypothesis one stated above, we used table 5.18 and table 51.9. The outcome is given below:

Table 5.39: Observed frequencies for hypothesis one

Response	Table 5.18	Table 5.19	Total
Yes	98	37	135
No	122	183	305
Total	220	220	440

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.40: Expected frequencies for hypothesis one

Response	Table 5.18	Table 5.19	Total
Yes	67.5	67.5	135
No	152.5	152.5	305
Total	220	220	440

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.41: Computed X^2 Values for hypothesis one

fo	Fe	fo-fe	$(fo-fe)^2$	$(fo-fe)^2/fe$
98	67.5	30.5	930.25	13.78
37	67.5	-30.5	930.25	13.78
122	152.5	-30.5	930.25	6.1
183	152.5	30.5	930.5	6.1

$(fo-fe)^2/fe=39.76$

Source: Field Survey, 2015

To arrive at our degree of freedom we compute thus:

Df=(r-1) (c-1)

Df=(2-1) (2-1)

Df=1x1

Df=1

The tabulated chi-square at 5% level of significance under the degree of freedom 1=3.841 while the calculated chi-square =39.76

Decision Rule: The decision rule states that if the computed value of chi-square is greater than the critical value (tabulated value), we reject the null hypothesis. Therefore, with computed value of 39.76 which is greater than the critical value at 3.841, we therefore refuse to invalidate the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant relationship between local government support and increase agricultural productivity in Soba local government area of Kaduna state. This means that there is significant relationship between local government support and increase agricultural productivity in Soba local government area of Kaduna state.

Test of Hypothesis Two:

There is no significant relationship between agriculture and economic development in Soba local government area of Kaduna state

In testing hypothesis two stated above, we used table 5.8, 5.9, 5.10 and 5.11 and the outcome is given below:

Table 5.42: Observed frequencies for hypothesis two

Response	Table 5.8	Table 5.9	Table 5.10	Table 5.11	Total
SA	116	129	105	64	414
A	35	53	61	55	204
UD	13	5	11	43	72
D	51	6	26	26	109
SD	5	27	17	32	81
Total	220	220	220	220	880

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.43: Expected frequencies for hypothesis two

Response	Table 5.8	Table 5.9	Table 5.10	Table 5.11	Total
SA	103.5	103.5	103.5	103.5	414
A	51	51	51	51	204
UD	18	18	18	18	72
D	27.25	27.25	27.25	27.25	109
SD	20.25	20.25	20.25	20.25	81
Total	220	220	220	220	880

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 5.44: Computed X^2 Values for hypothesis two

Fo	Fe	fo-fe	$(fo-fe)^2$	$(fo-fe)^2/fe$
116	103.5	12.5	156.25	1.51
129	103.5	25.5	550.25	5.32
105	103.5	1.5	2.25	0.02
64	103.5	39.5	1560.25	15.07
35	51	-16	256	5.02
53	51	2	4	0.08
61	51	10	100	1.96
55	51	4	16	0.31
13	18	-5	25	1.39
5	18	-13	169	9.39
11	18	-7	49	2.72
43	18	25	625	34.72
51	27.25	23.75	564.0625	20.70
6	27.25	-21.25	451.5625	16.57
26	27.25	-1.25	2.25	0.08
26	27.25	-1.25	2.25	0.08
5	20.25	-15.25	232.5625	11.48
27	20.25	6.75	45.5625	2.25
17	20.25	-3.25	10.5625	0.52
32	20.25	11.75	138.0625	6.82
				$(fo-fe)^2/fe=136.1$

Source: Field Survey, 2015

To arrive at our degree of freedom we compute thus:

Df=(r-1) (c-1)

Df=(4-1) (5-1)

Df=3x4

Df=12

The tabulated chi-square at 5% level of significance under the degree of freedom 12=21.026 while the calculated chi-square =136.1

Decision Rule: The decision rule states that if the computed value of chi-square is greater than the critical value (tabulated value), we reject the null hypothesis. Therefore, with computed value at 136.1 which is greater than the critical value at 21.06, we therefore refuse to invalidate the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant relationship between agriculture and economic development and accept the alternate hypothesis which states that there is significant relationship between agriculture and economic development. This simply entails that there is significant relationship between agriculture and economic development and that agriculture has contributed immensely to economic development in Soba local government area of Kaduna state.

5.5 Summary of Major Findings

The outcome of data presented and analyzed above are the following findings summarized below which are also major findings of this study. They show:

a. that most people in the local government are farmers engaging majorly in crop farming among other agricultural practices such as animal rearing, poultry, fishery to mention but these few with many of the people engaging in both raining season and irrigation farming;
b. that farmers who cultivate their farms using hoes, animal-driven and mechanical instruments while employing both family and hired as well as transporting their agricultural produce to the market or sell them at home are not satisfied with the price level of their farm produce if compares to the cost of production of such produce in Soba local government;
c. that Soba local government efforts to boost agriculture include provision, conducting and making available its agricultural research and findings to people (farmers), provide

extension services, has microfinance scheme for people though with high interest rate as well as provision of farm inputs which to farmers are inadequate to meet the farming needs of farmers in the local government

d. that agriculture has contributed immensely to economic development as it has been the main source of employment to many and that increasing agricultural productivity among farmers has enhanced opportunities for more income generation by farmers where agriculture has been relevant in providing income being used by farmers in providing and promoting health and educational status of many households as well as being a source of food and nutritional upliftment of households in the local government; and
e. through the secondary obtained and analyzed, there is inconsistency in finance of the agricultural sector in the local government area as shown in the budget analysis with the period of the study and capital budget for agriculture is distorted in many occasion;
f. that lack of adequate farm inputs, microcredit scheme, use of inappropriate technology, environmental hazard including overdependence on imported agricultural food items are major factors and problems militating against the promotion of agricultural productivity for economic development.

CHAPTER SIX:

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we summarized the entire work in a very concise manner for easy understanding, draw conclusion and made recommendations in line with the major findings of the study earlier presented in chapter five.

6.2 Summary

We carried out this study in order to examine the contributions of agriculture to economic development in Soba local government area of Kaduna state, because, despite the dominant of the oil sector as the major foreign exchange earnings, agriculture remains the mainstay of the Nigerian economy in addition to contributing the largest share of gross domestic product (GDP). The aim of this research was to examine the relationship between agricultural development and economic development in Soba local government area of Kaduna state among other specific objectives which were succinctly stated. The relationship between the variables was stated i.e. between agriculture and economic development while the significance of the study to farmers, government and the world of research were clearly asserted. We also defined key concepts such as agriculture, economic development, farming, forestry, crop, livestock, wildlife, fisheries, rural areas and rural development.

Literatures in the area of agriculture, economic development, economic growth, rural development, the relationship between agriculture and economic development, the economics of agricultural development, strategies for agricultural and rural development, providing an

argument on why government policies on agriculture and rural development in Nigeria has failed, the role of agriculture in rural and economic. We adopted the "Socialist Theory of Rural Development" by Aziz (1987) was adopted as a framework to guide our research.

In the research methodology, we adopted survey research design which involves the use of questionnaire, interview and observation. The population of the study comprises all people in the local government practicing one type of agricultural activity or the other including some staff of Soba local government. We adopted simple random and purposive sampling techniques to draw our sample size and used three methods of data collection, through the instrument of questionnaires, interviews and observation backed by secondary data through textbooks, newspapers, articles, journals, internet and other available and most relevant documents to the researcher within the local government.

The course of this study, we also gave a brief and concise profile of Soba local government, including objectives for creation of local governments (Soba local government inclusive), depicting its organizational structure and discussed functions of the various departments including the units.

All the data we collected via the use of questionnaire were presented using tables and percentage while qualitative analysis was employed to explain the distribution of frequencies and percentages from the various responses in the tables while hypotheses of the study were tested using the chi-square statistical tools. Major findings of the study were clearly highlighted to serve as guide in drawing conclusion and making constructive recommendations to improve the agricultural development for the purpose of facilitating economic development.

Finally, we provided a summary of the entire research work, draw conclusion and made policy-based recommendations that if taken seriously and implemented by the government and other stakeholders in the agricultural sector in Soba, Kaduna and Nigeria at large, will improve the contributions of the sector to economic growth and by implication economic development.

6.3 Conclusion

In consonance with the analysis of data undertaken in the course of this study, we therefore concluded that agriculture has positively contributed to economic development of the people of Soba local government including impacting on their welfare and educational attainment and that agricultural development is a veritable means and a necessary, though not sufficient condition for the development of rural communities in Soba, Kaduna state and Nigeria at larger. This will first ensure rapid economic growth of rural including urban communities which will in turn facilitate not just development but sustainable rural economic development. Nigeria has been labelled by many analysts as a state of paradox, because with abundant income form oil, we are still among the poorest countries in the world according to World Bank 2014 world poverty reports; with large number of people living below poverty line amidst steady economic growth. Again, with abundant vast and arable landmass and agricultural potentials, Nigeria is still importing food items that can easily be produced in our dear country which will create more jobs and reduce poverty and income disparity between farmers and office workers including those in business.

Development strategy using agriculture particularly in the less developed countries is more likely to succeed given the fact that effective agricultural productivity is viewed by many scholars and analysts as an effective means of attacking poverty, reducing income inequalities, generating higher incomes thereby stimulating overall productivity of the economy. It is on this note that we

conclude that agricultural development is not only a catalyst for achieving economic development in rural areas; it is also a pre-condition, if not a necessary condition for facilitating sustainable economic growth and economic development in our local government areas, states and Nigeria as a whole.

6.4 Recommendations

In view of the findings of this study including how agriculture has so far contributed to economic development in Soba local government and Nigeria as well as factors militating against agricultural contributions to economic development, we proffered some solutions and/or made policy recommendations to serve as means of improving agricultural productivity and its contribution to economic development in Soba, Kaduna and Nigeria at large. That:

a. adequate supply of farm inputs such as fertilizer, pesticides and insecticides, improved seedlings, chemicals, storage facilities among others to help in controlling pests and other diseases that can destroy agricultural produce can be useful in improving yearly productivity of farmers, increasing their incomes as well as impacting positively on their standard of living;
b. agricultural research should be given utmost priority and attention, government should revitalize agricultural training institutes and also provides effective and efficient extension service system including building the capacities of staff (extension workers) and farmers, involve non-governmental organizations, opinion leaders and other stakeholders in the delivery processes, while the outcomes of the various research should be made available for farmers to utilize and they should be properly guided on how to utilize the research outcomes by the researchers and/or through extension workers;

c. mechanization of agriculture that will help improve the sector in rural areas and involve the use of modern machines and technologies such ploughs, tractors, harvesters, among others will make the sector productive and economic development-driven but government must intervene as rural farmers cannot afford these machines;
d. education will help to terminate conservatism among rural farmers; farmers should be well educated on farming techniques and how to apply modern technology to improve their agricultural productivity and this requires effective and efficient extension services;
e. there is the need to develop rural communities, provide them with feeder roads to link them up with markets, boreholes, hospitals and clinics, provide them with simple farm tools and implements, alternative sources of energy and/or abundant supply of power, build storage facilities etc. to mitigate rural-urban drift and neglect of the agricultural sector. The provision of these facilities and equipment will leads to retention of able bodied men and women in the rural areas where they will contribute their quota to increase agricultural productivity while improvement in transportation will aid the movement of farm produce to urban markets where they are better priced;
f. farmers should form cooperative societies where they can pull together their meagre financial resources to buy or hire tractors, buy fertilizer, improved seedlings and other farm implements which can work in their farms on rotational basis. Note that cooperatives can attract both government and donors assistance and farmers should be encouraged to form as many as possible;
g. we also suggest an improvement in the purchase and marketing of agricultural produce through the resuscitation of marketing boards so that they will purchase not only cash but also surplus food crops. Markets should be constructed proximate to farming

communities particularly those that cannot afford to transport their farm produce to large urban and profitable markets mostly located in larger complicated urban areas;

h. since diversification of the economy is the major priority of the present administration of President MuhammaduBuhari and with the army of unemployed youths roaming the streets for non-existing white collar jobs, focusing on their agricultural sector through the provision of all the necessary incentives such as marking available or leasing of land and start-up capital to the unemployed can serve as impetus which will enable them purchase new and modern instruments/implements and also hire more labourers in order to embark on a large scale agricultural productivity. Meanwhile, there should be a mechanism in place to ensure transparency in the disbursement of these funds i.e. the loans otherwise these monies will end up in wrongs hands thereby defeating the purpose of the loans;

i. processing machines and technologies should be provided and located within or proximate to rural farming communities to enable rural peasant farmers to process and package their produce to attract higher prices and buyers both within and even abroad. This will also entails revitalization of our ailing and moribund industries to consume farmers produce which will encourage large scale agricultural productivity, increase employment opportunities and contributing immensely to economic development; and

j. finally, all local governments (Soba inclusive) should be encouraged to make it a matter of policy to ensure that there is a cash allocation ceiling in the local government yearly budget which makes mandatory for specific percentage of the local government budget to be allocated to the agricultural sector (this is should not be limited to local governments, it should also be applied to all states including the federal government) or at most and best, the yearly allocation to the agricultural sector should be at an increased rates yearly so that more funds will be made available to farmers through microcredit schemes at low interest rates.

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Appendix I

Questionnaire

Department of Local Government and Development Studies,

Faculty of Administration,

Ahmadu Bello University,

Zaria.

Dear Respondent,

I am a postgraduate student from the above department, faculty and institution carrying out a research on the topic "**The Contributions of Agriculture to Economic Development in Soba Local Government Area of Kaduna State**." The questionnaire is meant to elicit responses and gather information that will enrich the entire research. Note that any information provided will be treated confidential and used only for the purpose of this research.

Thank you.

Yours Faithfully,

OlusegunEsan

Please tick [√] where applicable in the boxes provided at the end of each question.

Section A: Bio Data of Respondent

1. Gender:
   a. Male [ ]
   b. Female [ ]
2. Occupation:
   a. Farmer [ ]
   b. Trader [ ]
   c. Civil Servant [ ]
   d. Student [ ]
3. Age:
   a. 18-25 [ ]
   b. 26-35 [ ]
   c. 36-45 [ ]
   d. 46-55 [ ]
   e. 56 and above [ ]

Section B: Agricultural Practices and Activities in the Local Government

4. Which among these types of agricultural system do you practice?
   a. Crop farming [ ]
   b. Animal rearing [ ]
   c. Poultry [ ]
   d. Fishery [ ]
   e. Others [ ], specify…….
5. Is agriculture the major source of livelihood to you?
   a. Yes [ ]
   b. No [ ]
6. Would you say agriculture has provided employment and opens up job opportunities for people in the rural communities?
   a. Yes [ ]
   b. No [ ]
7. Would you say agriculture has contributed to increase in the income of people (farmers) in your locality?
   a. Yes [ ]
   b. No [ ]

Section C: Relationship between Agriculture and Economic Development in Soba Local Government

8. Agriculture has been the main source of employment to many in the area.
    a. Strongly agree [ ]
    b. Agree [ ]
    c. Undecided [ ]
    d. Disagree [ ]
    e. Strongly disagree [ ]
9. Increasing agricultural productivity among farmers has enhanced opportunities for more income generation by farmers.
    a. Strongly agree [ ]
    b. Agree [ ]
    c. Undecided [ ]
    d. Disagree [ ]
    e. Strongly disagree [ ]
10. Agriculture has been relevant in providing income being used by farmers in providing and promoting health and educational status of their households.
    a. Strongly agree [ ]
    b. Agree [ ]
    c. Undecided [ ]
    d. Disagree [ ]
    e. Strongly disagree [ ]
11. Food and nutritional upliftment of households in this locality has been with the help of increasing agricultural productivity among farmers.
    a. Strongly agree [ ]
    b. Agree [ ]
    c. Undecided [ ]
    d. Disagree [ ]
    e. Strongly disagree [ ]
12. Does local government provide agricultural research and findings to people in this locality?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
13. Does the local government provide extension services to farmers in this locality?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
14. Does the local government has microfinance credit scheme for farmers?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
15. If yes, what is the microfinance credit scheme attached with?
    a. Free interest rate [ ]
    b. Low interest rate [ ]

c. High interest rate [ ]

16. Does the local government provide farm inputs such fertilizer, insecticides, improved seedlings among others for farmers in this area?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
17. Are the input supplies adequate enough?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
18. Has the local government council been supporting agricultural development in your locality?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
19. Would you say the support of agricultural development by the local government council is responsible for increase agricultural productivity in your locality?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
20. Do you own the land in which you are cultivating?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
21. How do you get the land you are cultivating on?
    a. Family [ ]
    b. Hiring [ ]
    c. Others [ ], specify……..
22. Agriculture in this locality is meant for?
    a. Household consumption [ ]
    b. Income generation [ ]
    c. All of the above [ ]
23. The cultivation of farmlands and other farm works are undertaken in this locality by?
    a. Family labour [ ]
    b. Hired labour [ ]
    c. Both A and B [ ]
24. What type of farming do people in the locality practice?
    a. Raining season [ ]
    b. Irrigation [ ]
    c. All of the above [ ]

25. Which of these implements/instruments do people use for farming in this area?
    a. Hoe [ ]
    b. Animal-driven [ ]

c. Mechanical [ ]
d. Both A, B and C [ ]

26. How do you market your produce?
    a. Transport to market [ ]
    b. Sell at home [ ]
    c. All of the above [ ]
27. Are you satisfied with the price level of your farm produce if compares to the cost of production of such produce?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]

Section D: Agricultural Problems and Possible Solutions

28. The major agricultural problem to economic development has been?
    a. Lack of farm inputs [ ]
    b. Lack of micro credit scheme [ ]
    c. Lack of appropriate technology [ ]
    d. Environmental hazard [ ]
    e. All of the above [ ]
29. Is overdependence on imported agricultural food items a problem in promoting agricultural productivity for economic development?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
30. Will adequate provision of farm inputs increase the productivity and contribution of agriculture to economic development?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
31. Is land reform important to increasing agricultural productivity among farmers and contribution to economic development?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
32. Will effective agricultural extension services facilitate increase in productivity and contribution of agriculture to economic development?
    a. Yes [ ]
    b. No [ ]
33. If yes, how?

a. Increase productivity [ ]
b. Increase income [ ]
c. Increase welfare [ ]
d. All of the above [ ]

Appendix II:

Interview Schedule

1. What are the various agricultural practices and activities mostly used in Soba local government area?

2. What are the various support that the local government normally to those engaging in one agricultural activity or the other within the local government area?

3. What are your views concerning the relationship between agriculture and economic development in Soba local government area?

4. In your knowledge, experience and opinion, what are the problems of agricultural development in Soba local government area?

5. What do you think can be done to improve the agricultural sector in order for it to contribute to economic development in Soba local government area?