



CONTEMPORARY JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

ISSN: 1115 - 959X

A JOURNAL OF THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Published in the Faculty of Social Sciences, Kogi State University, Anyigba, Nigeria

Volume 2 Edition, 2013



CONTEMPORARY JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Volume 2, Edition 2013

Editorial committee:

Editor-in-Chief:

Professor O.D Ogbonna

Editor:

Professor A. Ogidiolu

Members:

Professor P.C Onokala, UNN

Professor M.M Dàura, Unimaid

Professor Mala Galtima, FUTYola

Professor T. Ologunorisa, Uniosun

Dr. A.O Atubi KSU, Anyigba

Dr. E.O Oriola, Unilorin

Printed by

Haytee Press and Publishing Company Nigeria Ltd

No 2, Mejindadi Street off Taiwo Road, Ilorin

Kwara state, Nigeria.

08033604983, 08076016693

email: hayteepress@yahoo.co.uk

CONTEMPORARY JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Volume 2, Edition 2013

Parking Patterns and Problems in Developing Countries: A Case from Ilorin, Nigeria

A.J. Aderamo & K.A Salau.....4

Urban Agriculture for Socio-economic Development in Kwara State, Nigeria

Tunde, A.M......21

The Decaying Social Infrastructures in the Nigerian Environment: Perspectives on Sustainable Development

¹*H.I Jimoh, ²O.D Ajewole, ³R.O Jimoh & ³R.O Ibrahim*.....34

Provision of Rural Public Transportation Services in Nsukka Region of South Eastern Nigeria.

A.N Ali.....45

An Assessment of the Challenges and Prospects of Agriculture in Nigeria

Tunde, A.M......62

Rapid Rate of Urbanization and Urban Environmental Health Hazards in Nigeria

B. A. Usman.....78

Analysis of Automobile Traffic Congestions in Lagos Island, Nigeria

Atubi, Augustus .O......90

The Impact of Climate Change on Hydrology and Water Resources in Nigeria

K.A Iroye.....107

Factors Responsible for Colours among Tourmalines in Some Parts of Southwestern Nigeria

¹*A.S Olatunji and ²R. O. Jimoh*.....117

An Assessment of the Challenges and Prospects of Agriculture in Nigeria

By

Tunde, A.M

Department of Geography & Environmental Management,
University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria

Abstract

Agriculture has been seen to play tremendous roles in economic development of many developing countries including Nigeria. This is evident from its contribution to GDP in these countries. This article assesses the challenges and prospects of agriculture for a period of fifty years (1960-2010) in Nigeria as a developing country. The paper is divided into four sections. Firstly, it provides conceptual clarifications of agriculture. Secondly, it discusses agricultural development and development planning. Thirdly, problems of agriculture in Nigeria were examined, and lastly, it suggests the way forward. Secondary data were sourced to examine the percentage contribution of agriculture to GDP. The trend in the percentage contribution of agriculture to GDP revealed that it has been falling since 1960 and between 2001 and 2010; there was no significant difference in its contribution. The article submits that agriculture should be improved upon so as to put an end to food crisis and poverty problems in the country.

Introduction

Agriculture is an important socio-economic activity in the tropics especially in Nigeria where it constitutes the main stay and livelihood for millions of people. It contributes meaningfully to foreign exchange earnings and Gross Domestic Products (GDP) with crops accounting for 80%, livestock 13%, forestry 3% and fishing 4% (National Report, 2006). Additionally, it is a source of income and it provides industrial raw materials for industries.

According to Encyclopedia of the Nations (2008), Nigeria has a wide range of climatic variations that allows production of variety of food crops such as cassava, maize, yam, beans, rice and cash crops such as cocoa, cotton, groundnuts, palm kernel, rubber among others. Cattle, fishing and lumbering are also part of Nigeria's agricultural sector. Population is increasing faster than food supply. While the annual rate of population growth is estimated at between 2.5 – 3%, that of food and

agricultural production is growing at between 1.4 -2% (FOS, 1996). The production of agricultural crops and livestock has therefore not kept pace with population growth and rising demand. This scenario has weakened the contribution of agriculture to the development of the national economy.

Before independence in 1960, agriculture was the most important sector of the economy accounting for more than one-half of the annual GDP and for more than three-quarters of export earnings. However, the percentage contribution of agriculture has continued to decline as a result of neglect of the sector and faster growth in other sectors of the economy particularly in the petroleum sub sector. The advent of crude oil in the early 1970s made agriculture to suffer a serious decline because attention was shifted from agriculture to petroleum. Total dependence on petroleum as a result of the oil boom brought about a distortion of the labour market. This led to adverse effects on the production levels of agriculture in the areas of food and cash crops.

People, especially men and youths move daily from rural areas to urban centers in search of paid employment from oil industries, government offices and other industries. As a result of this migration, a predominant number of women and old were left behind in the rural areas to head farm households and manage farms for the ever increasingly population. Rural farmers are paid low prices by Nigerian government over the years on food for the domestic market so as to satisfy urban demands for cheap basic food products. This policy made agricultural work unattractive and enhanced the lure of the cities for farm workers. When the food production by the rural areas could not keep pace with its increasing population, Nigeria then began to import food. Hence, Nigeria status as a net exporter of cash crops was lost. According to U.S Department of State FY 2001 country commercial guide, Nigeria total food and agricultural imports are valued at approximately U.S. \$1.6billion per year (Encyclopedia of the Nations, 2008).

Ever since the food crisis, governments have been making frantic efforts to resuscitate agriculture but the problem still persists. The efforts made by different governments include: National Accelerated Food Production Programme (NAFPP) (1972), Operation Feed the Nation (OFN) (1976), River Basin Development Authority (RBDA) (1977),

Green Revolution Programme (GRP) (1980), Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural infrastructure (DFRRI) (1986), Better Life Program (BLP) (1986), National Agricultural Research Project (NARP) (1972), Family Support Programme (FSP) (1995) and Special Programme on Food Security (SPFS) (1999).

Despite all the efforts made by different governments, rural-urban migration and natural growth continue. The resultant effect of lack of development of agricultural sector is that the contribution of agriculture to the Nigerian economic growth is now very low when compared with the past. Hence, there is the need to assess the challenges and prospects of agriculture in Nigeria. To achieve this aim, the following specific objectives shall be pursued:

1. Analyze the various development plans of Nigeria with respect to agriculture.
2. Examine the challenges of agricultural production in Nigeria.
3. Determine the present situation of agriculture and the way forward.

Conceptual Clarifications Agriculture

Agriculture can be defined as the science, art or occupation concerned with cultivating land, raising crops and feeding, breeding and raising livestock (Nichols *et al*, 1999). Agriculture or agricultural production is the purposive raising of livestock and crops for human needs (Grigg, 1984). The word "purposive" thus excludes hunters and gatherers who have not domesticated the plants and animals they use for food. Similarly, Hewes (1993) states that agriculture can be seen as the systematic raising of useful plants and animals by human management. The definition, while including livestock rearing, however excluded gathering of wild plants and animals even when used for food and other purposes.

Williams (1978) sees agriculture as the most important activity in the rural areas of Nigeria, because it represents such a large proportion of the total national production and so it must be made as efficient as possible. Agriculture is a key sector in most developing countries because it enables them to accomplish developmental goals including self-reliance, growth

and equity (Roy, 1990). Dalton (1982) regards agriculture as a collection of activities which convert mainly biological inputs into food and raw materials. These activities can be classified into a set of sequential processes such as input manufacturing and distribution, farming, food processing, wholesaling and retailing.

Anyanwu and Anyanwu (1995) define agriculture as a field that does not end with production of food and raw materials but rather: cultivation of land to produce crops and animals; partial processing of farm products; preservation of farm products; and marketing of farm products. This means that agricultural production may be extended to include post-harvest stages and activities, processing, preservation and marketing.

Agriculture is synonymous with farming and farming is a branch of agriculture. Other branches of agriculture include fishing, horticulture, and pasture or forage cropping. Forestry production carried on as an ancillary activity on an agricultural holding is also considered as agricultural production. For this study, agriculture is referred to as the production of food grains, fruits, vegetables, fish raising, her gardening, livestock, all forms of poultry rearing, honey harvesting, flower and shrub growing for home consumption and or/ for the market and related small-scale processing and marketing activities.

Methods of Study

The study employs the use of secondary source of information generated from government agencies and published works. Recorded data on Gross domestic Product (GDP) over a period of fifty (50) years (1960-2010) was obtained from National Bureau of Statistics. Line graph was used to show trends in the contributions of agriculture to GDP.

Contributions of Agriculture to GDP since Independence

A look at Nigerian economy and its development in retrospect reveals that the percentage contribution of agriculture to the total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has been decreasing (see table 1). The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is one the primary indicators used to evaluate the health of a country's economy. It is the total dollar value of all officially recognized final goods and services produced over a specific time period

within a country. In the 1960s, the agricultural sector contributes significantly to domestic production, employment and foreign exchange earnings (National Bureau of Statistics, 2012). The percentage contribution of agriculture was put at 63 percent in 1960 when Nigeria became independent and a lot of people were into the practice of agricultural production. Agriculture accounted for well over 80 percent of the export earnings and employment and about 50 percent of the government revenue (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 2000). The percentage contribution decreased to 60 percent in 1964, 1965-1970 recorded 54.8% and percentage decreased from 1971-1980. From 1981-1990, the percentage contribution increased a bit until 1991 when it started decreasing again. 1996-2000 experienced a serious decline of as low as 24.6 percent of the Gross Domestic Product. These figures show that agriculture has experienced serious decline since emphasis was on petroleum exploration and exploitation.

Agriculture suffered a serious decline because attention was shifted from agriculture to the oil boom and poverty was rampant both at the rural and urban areas. Many residents in the country live in abject poverty as a result of lack of sufficient food to survive. More than 70 percent of the population is classified as poor, with 35 percent living in absolute poverty (Global Action on Aging, 2008) most of whom are engaged in agriculture from independence till today. These poor peasant farmers cultivate an average of about two hectares of farm land usually on scattered holdings with low and declining productivity.

Table 1: Percentage Contribution of Agriculture to GDP in Nigeria (1960-2000)

Year	Total GDP (Millions)	Agric Share of GDP	% share of Agric
1960	2.23	1.58	64.30
1961	2.36	1.62	62.10
1962	2.60	1.62	61.80
1963	2.76	1.65	61.50
1964	2.75	1.67	60.73
1965	2.89	1.67	57.79
1966	3.11	1.69	54.34
1967	3.37	1.89	55.19
1968	2.75	1.53	55.64

1969	2.66	1.42	53.38
1970	3.55	1.71	48.79
1971	5.28	2.58	48.86
1972	6.65	3.03	45.56
1973	7.14	3.09	43.28
1974	18.23	4.50	24.68
1975	12.12	3.35	27.64
1976	16.46	3.84	23.33
1977	19.44	4.82	22.22
1978	23.83	4.90	20.56
1979	26.79	5.14	19.17
1980	27.37	5.39	14.64
1981	77.83	25.99	33.39
1982	78.20	26.79	34.26
1983	74.95	26.81	35.77
1984	69.95	25.06	35.83
1985	75.50	28.58	37.85
1986	77.90	31.21	40.06
1987	79.27	31.86	40.19
1988	82.53	32.87	39.82
1989	83.50	33.90	30.60

Source: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) 2011

There have however been little or no significant changes in the GDP contribution to agriculture from the period 2001-2010 (Table2).

Table 2: Percentage Contribution of Agriculture to GDP in Nigeria (2001-2010)

Year	Total GDP (₦ billions)	Agric share to GDP	% Share of Agric
1990	267.55	84.35	31.53
1991	265.38	87.50	32.97
1992	271.37	89.35	32.92
1993	274.83	90.60	32.97
1994	275.45	92.83	33.70
1995	284.41	96.22	33.83
1996	293.75	100.22	34.12
1997	302.02	104.51	34.60
1998	310.89	108.81	35.00
1999	312.18	114.57	36.70
2000	329.18	117.95	35.83
2001	431.78	182.66	42.30

2002	451.71	190.37	42.14
2003	495.01	203.01	41.01
2004	527.58	216.21	40.98
2005	561.83	231.46	41.19
2006	595.82	248.60	41.72
2007*	634.86	267.06	42.20
2008	672.20	336.17	42.13
2009	716.95	384.35	43.10
2010	775.00	361.42	40.84

Source: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) 2011

Figure 1 reveals that percentage contribution has been decreasing gradually since 1960 until 1973 when there was a sharp decrease till 1981. However, it increased a little to about 42% between 2001 and 2009. In 2010, it dropped again. The implication of this is that agricultural sector needs to be improved upon so as to attain the former level it was in the early 60s.

Agriculture and Development Planning in Nigeria

In an agricultural economy such as Nigeria, agricultural development involves provision of better food for the teeming population, improvement in infrastructure, provision of modern technologies, establishment of agricultural banks, formation of farmers' cooperative societies, provision of schools within the villages and more importantly, non reliance on urban people for important needs. However, in most of the National Development Plans in Nigeria emphasis was highly placed on agriculture.

The Colonial Period (1945-1956)

The ten year plan of development and welfare placed emphasis on physical development, better standard of living and many things that curb rural-urban migration. During this period, attention was concentrated on cash crops such as cotton, cocoa, groundnut e.t.c (Adeyemi, 2001).

The First National Development Plan (1962-1968)

Agricultural development was given high priority during this plan period. The objective was to raise the living standards of small farmers so as to increase productivity and also to increase raw agricultural material for the local industries and export and also improving the dietary needs of

the population (Federation of Nigeria, 1962). Many programmes came up during the time such as distribution of seeds, introduction of improved farm implements and new farming methods. Extension workers were also trained during the period. Priority was also accorded to the provision of water, health facilities roads (rural feeder roads) and schools (primary and secondary) and food production especially cash crops. Improvement of food production was the aim of all the programmes however Agricultural Development Projects (ADPs) funded by World Bank has its office in each state of the country and the Federal Capital, Abuja. During this period, various agricultural research institutes such as Rubber Research Institute of Nigeria, (RRIN) (1961), Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CCRIN) (1964), International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) (1967) and National Institute for Freshwater Fisheries (NIFF) (1968) were established so as to enhance food security and improve livelihoods in Nigeria through research for development.

The Second National Development Plan (1970-1974)

The main agricultural development in the second national development planning period was to boost food production and sustainable economic development. Attempt was also made to boost rural living conditions by launching large scale irrigation projects within the twelve states. Agricultural production was improved upon tremendously in the area of provision of storage facilities so as to reduce wastage of agricultural produce (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1970). A large investment in large-scale farming was embarked upon, highly yielding seeds were provided for the farmer, and fertilizers were subsidized to farmers. The Nigerian Agricultural Bank was fully in operation providing loan of ₦3.7 million to co-operative unions in the north eastern state with over 200,000 farmers. Loans were granted to the twelve states individually from all over the country at 900,000 naira. Over ₦34million were set-aside for the establishment of farmer cooperative division within Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Some of the programmes implemented during the time are: Farm Settlement Scheme, National Accelerated Food Production Programme (NAFPP) launched in 1972 (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1970).

The Third National Development Plan (1975-1980)

In the third national development plan, agricultural development include improvement in the rural quality of life, increasing rural income, provision of basic amenities in order to bridge the gap in living standard of the rural and urban population (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1975). Several agricultural projects were launched; these include Agricultural Development Projects (ADPs), Accelerated Development Areas (ADAs). Other agricultural development intervention experiment include (i) Operation Feed the Nation in 1976, (ii) River Basin Development and Rural Development Authorities (1976), Promulgation of land use decree and the institution of Agricultural Guaranteed Minimum Credit Scheme (AGMCS) in 1978, (iii) Green Revolution Programme (1980) (iv) World Bank-funded Agricultural Development Projects with office in each state of the country including Abuja. However, improvement of food production was the aim of all the programmes launched (Issa, 1993).

The Fourth National Development Plan (1981-1985)

Government was concerned with rural integrated agricultural projects (Agricultural and Rural Development). The programmes aimed at providing improved services to farmers in form of integrated packages. This was to ensure the evolution of appropriate infrastructure, institution and administration apparatus to facilitate rapid development of the country's agricultural potential areas. Federal government allocated ₦1.616billion to agriculture and water resources and this was to give further impetus to our continued effort to increase agricultural production (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1981).

A sum of N40million was allocated to Nigeria Agricultural and Cooperative Bank while ₦32million was earmarked for agriculture credit guarantee scheme. About N67.58million was allocated to Bauchi, Kano, Sokoto, and Kaduna States. Also, N104million was allocated to Accelerated Development Areas (ADAs) for 429 farm service, 12,065km of feed roads, 2,650 boreholes, 2,280 wells and 249 earth dams were constructed. Federal Government financed these projects through the loans from the World Bank (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1981). Small holder farmers were given loans through Nigeria Agricultural and Co-operative

Banks. Back to land scheme started in 1984 in River State followed by Oyo State (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1986).

However, 1986 to date have witnessed more agricultural development in Nigeria through the establishment of Rural Development Agency, the Directorates of Foods, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) by decree no 4 of 1987 that was charged with the responsibility to improve rural water supply in the country between the years 1986-1987. Better Life for Rural women was conceived by Mariam babaginda in (1987) to compliment the policy of the federal government to develop rural areas. Nigerian Agricultural Land Development Agency (NALDA) was established in 1991 while National Agricultural Research Project (NARP) came into existence in 1992.

In 1994, more priorities were placed on agriculture and natural resources in order to enhance food production for the growing population (Federal Republic of Nigeria 2000). The basic programmes include Family Support Program (FSB), the provision of counterpart funding requirement for the agricultural development projects and many irrigation projects were completed. In 1997, agriculture was accorded high priority so as to achieve self-sufficiency in food production. ₦3.81 billion was allocated to Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Seed multiplication, crop promotion, tractor rehabilitation e.t.c were focused upon.

Federal government launched Special Programme and Food Security (SPFS) in 1999 (Federal Republic of Nigeria 2000) while poverty alleviation programmes were targeted upon in year 2000 to date. The focus of the agricultural sector during this period was on the provision of incentives for increased productivity. Example includes operation clean and green that was conceived by Governor Bukola Saraki of Kwara state. The poverty alleviation programmes were meant to eradicate poverty in both urban and rural life dwellers and such programmes include Federal Economy Advancement Programme [FEAP], National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) and Poverty Alleviation Programme (PAP).

Challenges of Agriculture

In Nigeria, agriculture is faced with different challenges and these challenges have great impact on its development. The main challenge to

the development and growth of agricultural sector is that there has been no improvement in the structure and method of production since independence. According to The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, if Nigeria's farmland is properly managed it will be of good productivity (Nigerian National Planning Commission, 2004). Lack of development of rural areas has also affected agriculture so much since most of our agricultural products are from the rural areas. Even at the discovery of oil in the early 1970s, if government had not neglected agricultural development as well as development of the rural areas, the number of youths that migrated to urban areas for share of the "national cake" would have reduced.

Another challenge is finance; most farmers in the rural areas are faced with problem of credit facilities. Credit facilities are granted to farmers with terms and condition of re-payment. At times collaterals are demanded for by the banks for farmers to obtain credit of which farmers may not be able to afford. Women farmers are more affected with this as result of lack of collateral. When credit facilities are not available to farmers, expansion of farms becomes difficult.

Land tenure is another challenge that affects agricultural production in Nigeria. It is an important production resource and has to do with availability and accessibility. In Nigeria, land is usually available but not accessible as a result of the tenural system. Generally, land is either owned by extended family or by the community and men have rights to land than women. Lack of control over land is a major limiting factor to women farmer's productivity.

Lack of farm inputs is another problem, farm inputs such as improved seedlings, fertilizer, chemicals, pesticides, improved technologies such as harvesters, tractors and processing machines are not usually available to farmers as at when needed. For example, fertilizers meant for the grass root farmers at subsidized rate are usually hijacked by the elites and sold at exorbitant prices to the rural farmers.

Poor transportation is also a challenge, most of our rural roads (common mode of transportation of agricultural products) are in bad condition due to lack of maintenance and some rural areas are not even accessible. This makes transportation of agricultural products difficult and

reduces farmers' income. Furthermore, fresh foods like vegetables do not get to consumers in the urban areas as at when needed.

Another challenge facing agriculture is flooding. It has been observed over the years that flooding affects agricultural production and a lot of farmers are crying for assistance over this event. For instance, in September, 2012 in Edu L.G.A, Kwara State, 3,200 hectares of rice plantation were submerged by flood. Other challenges facing agriculture include poor marketing, lack of education, disturbances by animals, pests and diseases, lack of storage facilities, problem of middlemen, inadequacy of trained extension agents, lack of irrigation, poor funding and mismanagement of agricultural institutes that are suppose to fabricate machines for the farmers (Tunde, 2011).

Prospects of Agriculture in Nigeria

Presently in Nigeria with a population of about 140 million (NPC, 2006) as at 2006 population census, the situation of agriculture is deteriorating as population increase is not proportional to food produced. This supports Malthusian Theory of 1798 (see Onokerhoraye, 1985) that population increases at geometric progression while food increases at arithmetic progression. This means food is very important in man's life and so when population is increasing, enough food should be made available to keep pace with the population. To support this, Abraham Maslow developed a hierarchic theory of needs of which food is one of the first level of needs by human. Increased in agricultural productivity should therefore be the focus of any government. The phenomenal growth in the petroleum sector of the economy made agriculture lose its position as the leading contributor to Nigeria's gross national product and leading foreign exchange earner (Ingawa, 1979). Furthermore, the contribution of agriculture to the GDP in Nigeria is decreasing and as at 2011, the percentage contribution was 40.21% but the sector still remains the leading employment sector of the vast majority of the Nigerian population as it employs two-third of the labour force. This article submits that there are prospects for improved agricultural production in Nigeria. The following are the steps to be taken towards achieving self-sufficiency in food production in Nigeria:

- Provision of infrastructural facilities so as to put an end to rural-urban migration by able-bodied.
- Provision of legal backing to control of farmland so that both men and women farmers can own land and use it as collateral to obtain loans from banks for increased agricultural production.
- Special consideration by Nigerian Agricultural and Rural Development Bank (NACRDB) and some other agricultural banks to resource-poor farmers in terms of provision of credit facilities.
- Formation of more agricultural cooperative societies and encouragement of farmers' participation.
- Creation of public awareness on climate change, adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- Provision of agro-extension services to rural farmers than urban elites. More extension agents should be recruited so as to disseminate new innovations to farmers.
- Provision of farm inputs at subsidized rate to farmers so as to boost their agricultural production.
- Construction and rehabilitation especially in the rural areas so that agricultural products can be transported from points of production to points of demand.
- Provision of storage facilities and irrigation services.
- Establishment of agricultural training schools for youths.
- Intensification of awareness campaigns by Government and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for people to go back to farm both at the rural and urban areas in country. This can be done through mechanization and availability of ready markets.

Conclusion

The study assesses the challenges and prospects of agriculture in Nigeria. This is based on the fact that the gross domestic product of Nigeria has been declining since the discovery of oil in 1970 till date. This could however be linked to some of the challenges of agriculture in Nigeria. There is therefore the need to adopt strategies to improved and increased agricultural production in Nigeria.

The measures suggested however include political stability, eradication of corruption, development of agricultural database and empowering rural farmers through provision of production resources. Also, government should shift attention to rural development as well as agricultural development.

References

- Adeyemi, O (2001). *Moving Nigeria Forward*. The Development Planning Approach. Ibadan University Press, Nigeria.
- Anyanwu, A.C and Anyanwu, B.O (1995). *Agriculture*. Junior Secondary School Agriculture. African FEP Publishers Limited, Onitsha, Nigeria pp1-5
- Dalton, G.E (1982). *Managing Agricultural System*. Applied Science Publishers. London/Newyork.
- Encyclopedia of the Nations (2008). *Nigeria Agriculture. Information about Agriculture in Nigeria*. Advameg Inc.Lagos, Nigeria.
- Federation of Nigeria (1962). *National Development Plan (1962-68)*. Ministry of Economic Development, Lagos.
- Federal Office of Statistics (FOS) (1996). *Nigeria Household 1995*. Summary of latest results from the National Integrated Survey of Households (NISH), Feb. 1996.
- Federal Republic of Nigeria (1970). *Second National Development Plan (1970-74)*. Federal Ministry of Information, Printing Division, Lagos.
- Federal Republic of Nigeria (1975). *Third National Development Plan (1975-80)*. The Central Planning Office, Federal Ministry of Economic Development, Lagos.
- Federal Republic of Nigeria (1981). *Fourth National Development Plan (1981-85)*. The National Planning Office, Federal Ministry of National Planning, Lagos.
- Federal Republic of Nigeria (1986). *Structural Adjustment Programme (1986-88)*. Federal Ministry of Finance, Lagos.

- Federal Republic of Nigeria (2000). *Obasanjo's Economic Direction 1995-2003*. Office of the Honourable Minister for Economic Matters, Abuja, Nigeria. 2000.
- Global Action on Aging (2008), *Rural Poverty in Nigeria* 777UN. Plaza, Suite 6, New York, NY 10017.
- Grigg, D (1984) *An Introduction to Agricultural Change: The Historical Experience*, Hutchison, London.
- Hewes, J (1993). *Agricultural Production in Encyclopedia Britannica*. London.
- Ingawa S.A (1979). *Socioeconomic Study of Three Villages in Bauchi State, Nigeria (with emphasis on labour utilization)*, M.Sc. Plan B Paper, Department of Agricultural Economics, Michigan State University.
- Issa, M.A (1993). The Challenge of Rural Development Strategies in a Deregulated Economy. A paper presented at National Seminar on Rural Development. Doing more less Developing Rural Resources in a Deregulated economy organized by New Nigerian Newspapers Limited in collaboration with Arthur Green Consultants held at Shiroro Hotel Minna, Niger State from 10th – 12th February, 1993.
- National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) (2012). *Agriculture*. Abuja
- National Population Commission (NPC) (2006). *Population Census of the Federal Republic of Nigeria*. Analytical Report of the National level, NPC, Abuja.
- National Report (2006). *Nigeria*. International Conference of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Ports Alegre 7-10, March, 2006.
- Nichols, W.R, Steinmetz, S, Dowling, J, Ambraziejus, V.A, Edmunds, D.P, Levine, C.M. (eds). (1999). Random house websters college dictionary. Random House Inc. USA.
- Nigerian National Planning Commission (2004). *Meeting Everyone's Needs- National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy*. Nigerian National Planning Commission, Abuja, 2004.

- Onokerhoraye, A.G (1993). *Population Studies*. Published by The Benin Social Science Series for Africa, University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria pp 36-38
- Roy, S (1990). *Agriculture and Technology in Developing Countries (India and Nigeria)*. Sage Publications. India.
- Tunde, A.M (2011). *Women Farmers and Poverty Alleviation in Small Towns of Kwara State, Nigeria*. Unpublished Ph.D. Thesis. Department of Geography and Environmental Management, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria.
- Williams, S.K.T (1978). *Rural Development in Nigeria*. University of Ife Press. Nigeria.