

3rd League of African Development  
Experts' Conference (LADEC - 2016)

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**CONFERENCE THEME**

African Rural Development: Strategies for Diversification & Sustainability

**CONFERENCE SECRETARIATE**

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## 3rd League of African Development Experts' Conference (LADEC - 2016)

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### **Conference Theme:**

African Rural Development: Strategies for Diversification & Sustainability

### **Objective**

The League of African Development Expert Conference (LADEC-2016) is a facilitated network of scholars, policy makers and practitioners from development-oriented Universities and Development institutions and organizations in Africa. With financial support from International Development Agencies and National Government, LADEC holds conferences across African Universities on specific topical issues that affect the development of the African Economy. The aim is to stimulate contacts between and create networks of development-oriented scholars, policy makers and practitioners active in the same geographical regions.

In line with LADEC's objectives, the aim 3rd Development Expert Conference is threefold:

1. to facilitate and stimulate an exchange of information and experiences among development experts; researchers, policy makers and practitioners from academic institutions, ministries, co-financing agencies, in West Africa and Nigeria in particular;
2. to present an overview of current relevant political, economic, social and cultural issues affecting poverty reduction and employment generation in the region; and
3. to stimulate discussion on and provide insight into the challenges development policies and practice offer, in particular the relevance of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), for the research agenda in the region and the extent to which this matches with the agenda, expectations and plans of researchers

### **Lead Speaker**

**Professor Boudha, L. K. H.**

Rural Economic Dev. Initiative

South Africa

### **Conference Distinguish Guests**

**Professor Francis Idike**

*Vice Chancellor*

*Ebonyi State University*

**Prof. Boudha, L. K. H.**

*Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI)*

*South Africa*

**Dr. Lisa Kuhn**

*Foundation for Sustainable Development*

*San Francisco, CA 94103*

**Professor Eugene Nweke**

*Dean Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities  
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**Dr (Mrs) Nkechi Emma- Echiegu**

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*Department of Estate Management,  
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**Engr. (Dr.) Diji, Chuks J.**

*Department of Mechanical Engineering,  
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**Rev. Fr. Dr A.O.U Echiegu**

*Director, Work and Study Programme,  
Ebonyi State University*

**Dr. Joseph O. Nkwede**

*Senior Lecturer  
Department of Political Science,  
Ebonyi State University*

**Conference Programme**

**Thursday 31st March, 2016**

Arrival of Guests/Conferees/Delegates

**Friday 1st April, 2016**

Opening Ceremony and Plenary Session

8:00	- 9:00am	Conference Registration
9:00	- 9:15am	Opening Prayer/ Welcome Remark by the LOC
9:15	- 9:30am	Institutional Brief/ Chairman's Opening Remark
9:30	- 12:00noon	Lead Speaker
12:00	- 2:00pm	Launch Break & Group Photograph
2:00	- 4:00pm	Plenary Session
4:00	- 5:00pm	Policy Review

**Saturday 2nd April, 2016**

Conferee Depart

# INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR POLICY REVIEW & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

*... Quality research begins here!*



## **Introduction**

The International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies (IIPRDS) is an independent international research and development Institute. It provides a platform for independent, collaborative and institutional evidence-based research work. Research endeavors in the Institute address specific policy and development challenges affecting developing economies of the world. It also partners with government and non-governmental agencies in advancing sustainable development initiatives.

## **Publications**

Since incorporated, the Institute has pursued its mandate of being a leading international research and publishing institution by organizing International Research Conferences and Seminars and publishing findings in International Journals. The Institute has published over 50 International Multi-disciplinary Journals domiciled in international reputable Universities and indexed electronically. Other readings of the Institute include,

1. African Development Charter Series: UN Development Policy Document. 3 series have already been published
  - (I) Rethinking Sustainable Development in Africa
  - (ii) Infrastructure, Economic Development and Poverty Reduction in Africa
  - (iii) Achieving Development Goals in Africa: Inclusive & Integrated Strategies
2. Strategic Framework for Local Government Performance
3. Nigeria's Development Profile in Time Perspective
4. Executive Economic Reviews
5. Standards for Writing Research, etc

## **Institutional Collaborations**

The Institute currently partners with University of Ghana- Accra, University of Education- Winneba, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Coventry University- United Kingdom, Weber State University- United States, University of California- Los Angeles, University of New South Wales- Sydney, Concordia University- Canada, University of Southern Australia, Universiti Teknologi- Malaysia and Cape Coast University.

### **Research/Project Arms**

The research unit of the Institute is known as the African Research Council on Sustainable Development (ARCSD) it functions with three frameworks,

- i. Centre for Renewable Energy Research and Development Strategies
- ii. Centre for Advanced Entrepreneurial Development Research
- iii. Centre for Quality & Analytical Research

### **Editorial Peer Review Policy/ Publications**

The Institute has a seasoned and experienced Multi-disciplinary International Professional Editorial Peer Review Board. Members are drawn from about 7 Universities, within and outside Nigeria (See website for details). The board operates a blind peer reviewed system. Submitted manuscripts are reviewed initially by internal editorial process. Manuscripts are evaluated according to the following criteria: material is original and timely, writing is clear, study methods are appropriate, data are valid, conclusions are reasonable and supported by the data, information is important, and topic has social and empirical relevance. Institutional Journals are published in hard print and e-version. Journals published are indexed online in international research repositories, some of which include, Google Scholar, OCLC WorldCat, United States, Bibliography of Asian Studies, ABS Academic Journal Quality Guide, PIAS International Fact Sheets/ Achieves, Ulrich's Periodicals Directory, EBSCO Information Services, Canada, International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS), National Library of Nigeria cataloguing in publication data and Brilliant International Research Library, among others.

### **Institutional Electronic Library**

The Institutional library is an institutional electronic repository established to manage, disseminate and preserve where appropriate, research materials and also provide access for purposes of advancing research studies and learning. It has a quiet area for studying, and also offers facilities to facilitate group study and collaboration. The library provides the open access to electronic resources through the Internet and offers assistance to librarians in navigating and analyzing very large amounts of information with a variety of digital tools.

### **Exchange of Idea Initiative (EII)**

The Institute publishes International Registered Research Journals both online and in print. The Institute currently operates an Exchange of Idea Initiative (EII) with other International Research Organizations and Libraries to enhance wider researcher of its journals. With this initiative, Academic Journals are published in various Countries by reputable publishers and research organizations not minding where the conference is held. This dynamism has diversified and improved the quality of the Institute Journals, enhanced International acceptance by indexing research agencies, built confidence in conferees and enhanced their disciplinary relevance.

See website for more details: [www.internationalpolicybrief.org](http://www.internationalpolicybrief.org)

# An Address by the Chairman LOC, Ojen, N-j on the Occasion of the 3rd League of African Development Experts Conference on Friday, 1st April, 2016



## PROTOCOL

- His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Ebonyi State, Chief Engineer David Nweze Umahi;
- Honourable members of the State House of Assembly;
- His Lordship, the Chief Justice of Ebonyi State;
- The Commissioner of Police, Ebonyi State Command, Mrs. Peace Ibekwe A.,
- The Vice-Chancellor, Ebonyi State University, Engr. Professor Francis I. Idike (OON);
- Deputy Vice Chancellor;
- Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Professor Eugene Nweke;
- Director, Work and Study Programme (EBSU), Rev. Fr. Dr. A. O. U. Echiegu;
- Head of Department, Psychology and Sociological Studies, Dr. (Mrs.) Nkechi Emma-Echiegu;
- Special Guests of Honour;
- Distinguished Academics and Staff of EBSU;
- Other visiting Academics and Staff of other Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges;
- Graduate Students here present;
- Members of the Press;
- Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is with immense pleasure and honour that I heartily welcome all of you to Ebonyi State at this 3<sup>rd</sup> league of Africa Development Experts Conference. Ebonyi State is one of the 36 States in Nigeria. It is popularly known as “Salt” of the Nation. It was created in 1<sup>st</sup> October 1996 by the then head of State, General Sani Abacha who eventually died two years thereafter. May his soul rest in perfect peace. The State is found in the South East Geo-political Zone. It has a total of thirteen (13) Local Government Areas and 64 Development Centres. The State is blessed with abundant mineral resources such as lime stone, salt, zinc, lead etc. Entertain no fear, for the people of this State are very much accommodating and hospitable. I thank the Almighty God for His journey mercies to Ebonyi State and I also pray for His unfailing guidance all through this conference and for continued protection here after.

Without bias, this is another momentous day in the history of Ebonyi State as we are proud to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> League of African development Experts Conference (LADEC – 2016) which is a facilitated network of scholars, policy makers and practitioners from development-oriented universities and development institutions and organizations in Africa. Ebonyi is worthy enough to host this Conference because we have a university and we are part of Africa. We

are being conscious of events and activities beyond our environmental academic confines. So we are grateful to the international institute for policy review and development strategies whose aim is at leading the frontier for quality research and sustainable development.

No doubt, discipline and ethical conduct are indispensable tools, for realizing our mission as scholars. It is on this premise that I lack words with which to express my profound gratitude and appreciation to all participants who have come from far and near just to attend this conference. You are all welcome to Ebonyi state. We have good accommodations with affordable prices, so feel relax. I enjoin you to continue to shine in your various academic endeavours so as to remain worthy of emulation by posterity.

Thank you for your esteemed cooperation.

Long live Federal Republic of Nigeria

Long live Ebonyi State

Long live International Institute for Policy review and development strategies.

# Agricultural Growth,

Poverty Reduction & Development Goals in Africa



**Prof. Boudha, L. K. H.**

*Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI)*

*South Africa*

Agricultural growth and poverty reduction are significant in achieving development goals in Africa. In doing this, research attention must be drawn to the following,

1. Improved Markets for African Farmers for Poverty Reduction
2. Advancing Technical change in Africa Agriculture
3. The role of Agriculture in Poverty Reduction: Recent experiences from Africa
4. Expanding the Frontiers of Agricultural Economics
5. Meeting Africa's Food and Nutrition Challenges
6. Agriculture, Environment and sustainable Development

Some of the emerging issues affecting agriculture in Africa include: lack of markets, globalization and market liberalization, biotechnology as a technical option to improve yields, poor infrastructure, lack of information, and new institutional economics (NIE) as a tool to solve development problems, HIV/AIDS prevalence and sustainable agriculture.

African countries are challenged by the emergence of globalization. African economies need to change their agricultural and industrial exports from primary products to manufactured goods. Such value addition will improve their participation in international trade, and enhance reduction of poverty. Africa needs to resolve challenges related to food and nutrition that affect many rural smallholder farmers who are poor.



# Challenges Facing Africa's Food Systems



**Dr. Lisa Kuhn**

*Foundation for Sustainable Development  
San Francisco, CA 94103*

Each day – all around the world – farmers face the same common threats to their productivity and livelihood. In Africa, however, the challenges go beyond damaging weather, pests and disease. And, with 80 percent of Africa's farmers cultivating less than two hectares (five acres), getting to know small-scale farmers is essential to understanding the hurdles facing the continent's food system. As Africa's population grows from 1.1 billion to an estimated 2 billion by 2050, what critical factors will need to be overcome?

**1. Critical inputs:** Farmers at all scales of production need access to the inputs required to produce a successful crop – high-yielding seeds, effective fertilizer and sufficient water. Even when these are available, input pricing is often too high for smallholders – resulting in fertilizer use in Sub-Saharan Africa of just one-tenth the world average.

**2. Access to financing:** Challenging legal and financial environments are constraining growth in African agriculture. For smallholders, especially, credit is often inaccessible or unaffordable. Without appropriate financing, farmers are not only less able to invest in their operations but also much more vulnerable to market volatility and unpredictable weather.

**3. Property rights:** According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN, secure land tenure and property rights can drive poverty reduction, rural development and global food security in developing countries. Farmers with clear land ownership are motivated to reinvest in their operations and increase production beyond subsistence farming, selling the surplus. Yet in many parts of Africa, farmers are unable to own their land and pledge it as collateral, limiting their incentive to reinvest in their businesses.

**4. Infrastructure for market access:** Farmers generally can earn higher prices outside of harvest season – yet few African smallholders have access to proper storage to take advantage of price fluctuations. Furthermore, many smallholders live in isolated, rural areas. Infrastructure like paved roads, reliable energy, warehouses and cold storage not only benefit farmer livelihoods but improve food security by reducing post-harvest loss. According to FAO, 40 percent of the population in Sub-Saharan Africa lives in landlocked countries, versus just 7.5 percent in other developing countries. That means farmers in this region require greater access to primary cross-border markets – access that is made slow and costly by poor roads, long delays at borders and other issues.

**5. Off-farm income:** It may sound counter-intuitive, but off-farm income is critically important to agricultural development. The first migrants from farms to cities often send money back to their family members. Those remittances can fund better farm inputs – seed, fertilizer and machinery, for example. The resulting improvement in productivity enables more people to leave the countryside for cities where their incomes, and their diets, tend to improve – boosting demand and prices for farm output.

# Global Value Chains: Africa, the factory floor of the World?



**Donald Kaberuka**

*President, African Development Bank*

*BP 323 - 1002 Tunis*

*Belvedere, Tunisia*

In order to significantly transform the economies of Africa from the current low-income level to middle-income status, it is paramount that value is added Africa's large reservoir of natural and agricultural resources through processing and manufacturing activities - implicit in the transition process from predominantly agrarian to industrial economies.

The importance of industrialisation for Africa is the promise that it holds for a more diversified, inclusive and sustained pattern of economic growth. Africa's recent relatively good growth performance has not been inclusive in terms of impact on poverty, due largely to the lack of diversification of the sources of growth including an over-reliance on primary commodity exports.

Also, growth has been largely not led to job creation, and has even been accompanied by rise in inequality in some countries. The absence of significant industrialisation in much of Africa is a missed opportunity for more robust, diversified and sustainable economic development. The Asian experiences of industrialisation are the most successful among the developing countries, and there is good reason for Africa to look at this model as a basis for its own industrial development. There are specific industrial policies and programmes that worked in Asia and that possibly can be replicated in Africa: among these are Global

## **Value Chains (GVC) and Special Economic Zones (SEZ).**

Global value chain operation is about how the division of labour in the production process is distributed globally and how this affects the distribution of income and profits between participating developing and developed countries. The promotion of value chains is a gaining increasing recognition within the realm of private sector development and beyond as a strategy for helping developing countries to get out of primary production and into processing and manufacturing activities as part of the process of industrialisation.

Actors in a value chain may range from micro enterprises to multinational corporations, and these actors – the different links in the value chain – can be embedded in quite different environments. A global value chain might involve the link between rural producers and urban processing and marketing enterprises in a developing country at the domestic end and then linked on to firms in the developed countries.

This coordination of production and trade relationships has been made possible with the openness of trade and direct foreign investment brought about by globalization and the global integration of production systems. Global value chains present an unprecedented opportunity for African economies to move beyond producing raw materials and build dynamic and competitive manufacturing sectors capable of processing the continent's abundant minerals and agricultural products. It is also an opportunity to create sustainable jobs and stimulate inclusive growth as new markets for value-added products evolve both in the continent and externally in the industrialised and emerging economies.

Special economic zones, as designated areas possessing special regulations and economic incentives for promoting industrialisation, come in handy for organising production built around processing and manufacturing activities. China's SEZs were key features of its early reforms, transforming coastal towns like Shenzhen into industrial centres within a generation. SEZs have recently gained increasing attention in Africa the context of the economic diversification specifically intended to stimulate the agglomeration of new economic activities, particularly manufacturing and processing, in a designated location by providing infrastructure, industrial-related services and facilities. The growing Chinese presence in Africa appears to be playing a catalytic role in the growth of SEZs as a feature of industrial policy in the region. In the context of its development cooperation with Africa, China has initiated and supported the operation of SEZs in Zambia, Mauritius, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Egypt, Tanzania, Algeria and Botswana.

African governments have responded by granting favourable conditions to foreign investors in the SEZs, which they believe will create jobs and boost export earnings. With China graduating to higher-value industrial production, Africa stands to benefit from the outsourcing of lighter manufacturing businesses from China to African SEZs. The USA and EU countries are also sponsors of SEZs that are now emerging in Africa.

In recent years, African countries have demonstrated renewed commitment to industrialization as part of a broader agenda to diversify their economies and to develop productive capacity for high and sustained economic growth, the creation of employment opportunities and substantial poverty reduction. This commitment is manifested at the sub-regional and regional levels through programmes unveiled, for example, by NEPAD, SADC, EAC and ECOWAS to achieve economic integration through industrialization.

African leaders are showing determination to seize emerging opportunities to foster industrial development in support of sustainable economic transformation and as a vehicle for economic growth and poverty reduction. This is evidenced by a series of declarations and decisions made at major summits and ministerial meetings, such as the Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) which was adopted by African Heads of States and Governments at the 10th African Union Summit in Addis Ababa in 2008.

At the global level, attention is also focused on the challenges of industrial development in Africa as evidenced by the adoption of relevant UN General Assembly resolutions, including one proclaiming an annual 'Africa Industrialization Day' (AID) and specific programmes and activities of UNIDO, FAO, ILO and other specialized agencies of the UN.

## **Job creation**

Much has been said about the fact that six of the world's ten fastest-growing economies (DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia) are in Africa, recording at least a seven per cent growth rate. But the evidence so far suggests that growth in the region has generally not led to job creation. Global value chains hold out much promise for realizing Africa's potential in agro-industry. As part of the process of structural transformation, African countries should take targeted actions at national and regional levels to establish production and trade links and synergies between different actors along the entire agribusiness value chain, through the provision of incentives for bolstering private sector investments and competitiveness. Together with SEZs, which have sprung up all over Africa recently - mostly on the basis of Chinese capital investment and technological know-how - the shift from primary production towards modern integrated agribusiness will undoubtedly be crucial for job creation and poverty reduction.

The assumption is that production based on GVCs and SEZs would become an integral part of the wider policy framework for industrial development, and that they could create conditions that would enable African countries to create new manufacturing jobs and specifically position themselves favourably to win jobs that are destined to be exported from China to lower-production cost destinations. The World Bank estimates that China has 85 million light manufacturing jobs to export, and GVCs and SEZs could improve Africa's chances to win a fair share of this number and reverse its declining share of world trade.

Preliminary evidence from some SEZs in Africa indicate that they are creating new jobs and that workers in these zones are on average paid more than workers outside of the zones. In addition to providing jobs, GVCs and SEZs have the potential to fostering economic diversification and, thereby, reducing dependence on traditional exports. Ethiopia, which is prioritising light manufacturing growth and its leather industry in particularly as part of its economic transformation programme, recently landed a large investment by a Chinese firm producing designer shoes for the US and EU markets; production is based at an industrial SEZ just outside Addis Ababa.

It is estimated that over 25,000 jobs have been created through GVC and SEZ - FDI enterprises in the country. In Ghana, the Tema Free Zone, a 480-hectare industrial park just outside Accra and equidistant from the largest seaport in the country and the international airport, has attracted over 200 companies including multinationals such as Nestle and L'Oréal, many of which are links in GVCs: job creation is booming with about 30,000 jobs generated by 2012 of which only 1,000 are held by expatriates; smaller companies are using the zone as a platform into global production networks.

## **Economic diversification and industrialization**

While sustained growth has contributed significantly to rapid economic transformation in Asia and Latin America, in Africa it has been observed that relatively high growth rates have contributed very little to job creation and in lifting the largest segment of the population out of poverty. To a large extent, this is due the lack of diversification of the sources of growth including a continued over-reliance on primary commodities which exposes African economies to the volatility of global commodity prices and resulting economic instability.

Africa's significant agricultural and natural resources are being exploited and exported mostly in their raw form, with little or no value added to commodity exports. Some of these natural resources represent irreplaceable, non-renewable asset, and their exploitation generally has weak economic linkages to the rest of the economy.

Economic diversification based on value-addition to natural and agricultural resources and export-oriented production, therefore, has a major role to play in the transformation of African economies from the current low-income to middle-income levels, with significant impact on job creation and poverty reduction. The upsurge in GVCs as a vehicle for economic diversification and the basis for resource-based industrial development is timely, given the increased demand for Africa's natural resources, together with increased urbanization and consumer demand for processed goods within the continent. Accelerating the industrialization process through diversification of exports can potentially contribute to the expansion of trade within Africa and between Africa and the rest of the world.

### **The strategic importance of manufacturing (including agro-processing) in industrial policy**

The strategic role of manufacturing in industrial policy as a vehicle for economic transformation of African economies hinges on the potentially strong linkage and spill-over effects between manufacturing and other productive sectors in the economy. Global value chain manufacturing activities and similar investments can serve as a critical source of demand for other sectors such as transport, banking, insurance and communication services, etc., as well as provide demand stimulus for the growth of the agricultural sector.

Also, creating food-processing agro-industries in rural Africa would contribute to lifting a significant number of African rural dwellers out of poverty through the additional wage-earning employment opportunities created. In terms of an appropriate industrial policy, the high forward and backward linkages that can evolve from manufacturing and agro-processing will contribute to boosting domestic investment, employment and output in the transformation process.

The strategic role of manufacturing in industrial policy in Africa should be supported by technology and innovation, which are crucial for economic transformation and development. Manufacturing, on the back of the prevailing ICT revolution in the region, can be an important source of technological innovation in African economies as well as a conduit for the diffusion of new technologies to other sectors.

Despite the critical role of manufacturing per se in the transformation and development processes of African economies, it is important that African policy-makers do not seek to achieve industrialization at the expense of the agricultural sector. Industrial policy has to address the role of the role and integration of the rural sectors with the rest of the economy and the contribution that these could make to industrial development through the advancement of value-addition agro-industries and the supply of wage goods that enhances the competitiveness of domestic enterprises in global value chains and export markets.

The promotion of GVCs should be based on the complementarity between agriculture and industry, taking into account the potential of agricultural development to contribute to the creation of competitive advantage industry. In many African countries, given the dominance of agriculture in their economic structure, the sector will continue to be an important source of foreign exchange needed to import intermediate inputs needed by domestic industries. A major challenge in industrial policy, including its implementation through the establishment SEZs, is how to create mutually supportive linkages between the industrial and non-industrial sectors of the economy.

### **Long-term strategy for industrialization**

Despite the progress made in a number of countries, industrialization in Africa remains a challenge. This is mainly because agriculture has not been sufficiently modernized and the manufacturing base is very low around the continent (with the exception of a small group of countries – e.g. South Africa, Tunisia, Morocco and Egypt).

Africa lags behind other developing regions in its industrial performance. For Africa to be successful with its economic diversification efforts, new industrial policies are needed to support the exploitation of its industrial potential. Opportunity exists within the context of private sector development, which is one of the priority areas for AfDB's support to Regional Member Countries (RMCs), to promote industrialization that would emphasize the modernization of agriculture and its integration into the manufacturing base through agro-processing and agro-industrialization. If requested by RMCs, the Bank should be able to provide assistance in the development of operational policy instruments for creating synergies between agriculture and industry, with beneficial growth and employment outcomes.

Global value chains are perceived as a means through which African countries can take advantage of growing opportunities to promote industrialization, but it should be cautioned that the Asian experience or model cannot simply be transposed to Africa where different socio-economic conditions and levels of human and physical development exist.

To begin with, the formal private sector in much of Africa is still dominated by foreign and international firms as compared with the situation in Asia where the indigenous private sector has a substantial presence in national economies. Also, GVCs and SEZs are not overnight success stories, and may require long-term commitment to have a lasting impact on growth and employment. It is, perhaps, too early to judge the effectiveness, or otherwise, of GVCs and the new generation of SEZs in Africa, in terms of their contribution to industrialization and as a source of export revenues.

When viewed as the fulcrum of an industrial policy that is supposed to drive the process of economic transformation, GVCs are useful frameworks for concretising backwards and forwards linkages within the local economy and potential spill-over effects with regional and global economies. However, lack of infrastructure (e.g. power from the national grid, road networks to ports and suppliers) and inadequate institutional support are obvious constraints that stand in the way of African countries positioning themselves to take over the lower end of global manufacturing from China and other Asian countries.

Production structures and institutions have to be transformed toward value-addition, rather than commodity extraction, and export, to ensure that GVCs and SEZs are beneficial to national economies in terms of creating decent jobs that are well-paid and under working conditions that meet with international labour standards. The success of global value chains and SEZs and other industrialization initiatives requires the creation of an enabling environment that enhances required domestic capacity and capability, particularly in respect of physical and social infrastructure, human capital, technological innovation, financial systems, and governance.

In addition, governments should put regulatory frameworks in place for tackling market failures as part of an industrial policy. The creation of such an enabling environment will help realize the full potential of the African private sector in an industrializing economy. There is a need, as part of an industrial strategy, for appropriate policy measures to encourage the development of Africa's private sector, particularly the indigenous private sectors focusing on SMEs.

A credible private sector will impact positively on growth and sustainable development through the ability to contribute to structural transformation. Africa's vast unexploited resources and abundance of labour provide opportunities for development of the private sector and attracting private investments for economic diversification and value-addition. It should also be recognized that entrepreneurs in Africa continue to face greater regulatory and administrative obstacles and high transaction costs, which make doing business harder; these obstacles and constraints must be addressed in any industrial policy. Deepening regional integration also offers the potential for Africa to tackle some of the challenges it faces in pursuing meaningful and beneficial industrial development.

### **Conclusion**

Major challenges regarding global value chains realizing their potential as a valuable tool of industrial development and economic transformation in Africa relate to overcoming constraints of poor governance linked to weak institutions, lack of infrastructure, and shortage of skilled and disciplined labour.

Taken together, these constraints on GVCs reduce the potential for developing manufacturing production for exports and to integrate into the global decomposition of value chains; hence, the US trade-promotion AGOA legislation has been beneficial to just a few African countries which are in a position to produce processed and manufactured goods for export to the US. China has similarly reduced tariffs on manufactured exports from some of its African trading partners, with relative flexible rules of origin, but indications are that they have not been able to benefit fully from these concessions precisely because of the above-mentioned constraints.

While GVC and SEZ-fuelled industrialization has contributed to export and employment growth in countries such as Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam, and turned China and South Korea into industrial giants, Africa's experience with industrial policy and its outcomes since independence has been largely disappointing.

Most of Africa's economies are still driven by commodity production and export of agricultural and mining products, and the continent remains the least industrialised region of the world. If GVCs and SEZs in Africa are to be sustainable and successful as showcases of industrial progress and structural transformation – as they have been in Asia – the role of African partners have to be enhanced. Specifically, industrial strategies and policies have to be introduced as a matter of urgency to remove existing constraints on value-addition and economic transformation – weak infrastructure, unreliable energy supply, underdeveloped and inefficient private sector, and shortage of skilled labour. Such strategies should not only focus on promoting high and sustainable long-term growth but must also ensure that the benefits of such growth are widely shared in order to reduce poverty and improve living standards for all.

### **Issues for discussion**

1. Are global value chains effective as an instrument for attracting investment to support industrial development in an emerging Africa?
2. What are the major challenges faced by African countries in designing and implementing effective industrial strategies and policies that will support the promotion of value-addition and sustainable structural transformation?
3. What lessons can Africa draw from the Asian industrial experience with GVCs and SEZs to inform Africa's industrialization drive, especially in addressing key challenges of industrialization for economic transformation?
4. Under what conditions will the growth of GVC activities in Africa have an impact on industrial development in general and specifically create the linkages needed between agriculture and industry?
5. Should African countries reinvigorate the role of national development finance institutions to promote industrial financing or rely mainly on external sources of finance to drive their industrialization process?
6. What types of enterprises should be granted SEZ status in Africa in order to maximise employment creation and export diversification opportunities in evolving regional and global economic settings?
7. Given that SEZs are established to provide export revenues, should SEZ firms also enjoy exemption from import duties on raw materials and exemptions from sales and other taxes over prolonged periods?
8. What steps can be taken to support women's empowerment and effective participation in Africa's industrial development and the benefits from it?
9. Infant and maternal mortality is down by a half. Life expectancy is up from 40 to 60 years. There are more children in school than at any time in recent history. Seven out of 10 Africans own a mobile phone. Absolute poverty is on the decline.



# IMPROVING RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE TO RAISE COMPETITIVENESS OF AFRICA'S AGRICULTURAL SECTOR AND TO DEVELOP REGIONAL MARKETS



## I. BACKGROUND

1. The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) is at the heart of efforts by African Governments under AU/NEPAD initiative to accelerate growth and eliminate poverty and hunger among African countries. The main objective is to help African countries achieve high economic growth through agriculture-led development. The NEPAD goal for the sector is agriculture-led development that eliminates hunger and reduces poverty and food insecurity, opening the way for export expansion.
2. CAADP defines four pillars and a companion document that addresses cross-cutting issues, including livestock, forestry, fisheries, gender and HIV/AIDS in order to accelerate agricultural growth, reduce poverty and achieve food and nutrition security in alignment with the key CAADP principles and targets.
3. The four CAADP pillars are:
  - a) Pillar I: Extending the area under sustainable land management and reliable water control systems.
  - b) Pillar II: improving rural infrastructure and trade-related capacities for market access.
  - c) Pillar III: Increasing food supply, reducing hunger, and improving responses to food emergency crises.
  - d) Pillar IV: Improving agricultural research and technology dissemination and adoption.
4. The development of adequate infrastructure is a key element in the fight against poverty as it increases access to markets for smallholders and small enterprises as well as inputs at competitive prices.
5. This concept note, is part of preparations for the Africa Ministerial Conference on Rural Infrastructure due in November 2011 in Kigali, Rwanda. It explores possible areas to build on current initiatives that would ensure Africa's smallholder farmers have access to domestic, regional and international markets whilst building partnership for infrastructure development.
6. Five regional studies will be undertaken to provide input to the process. To ensure the regional studies capture the current infrastructure projects being implemented at national and regional level, the CAADP pillar institutions and the RECs will put in place a focal team to work with the consultants.

7. The Program for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), a joint initiative of the AUC, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) aims at responding to the infrastructure development challenge in Africa. PIDA covers infrastructure of four sectors notably Energy, Transport, Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) and Trans-boundary Water. It will contribute to reinforcing and developing rural infrastructure in Africa.

## **II. IMPROVING RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRADE-RELATED CAPACITIES FOR MARKET ACCESS**

1. The objective of CAADP pillar II is to accelerate growth in the agricultural sector by raising the capacities of private entrepreneurs, including commercial and small holder farmers, to meet the increasingly complex sanitary and phytosanitary requirements for accessing regional and international markets. The focus is on developing strategic value chains with the greatest potential to generate broad-based income growth and create wealth in both rural areas and the rest of the country.
2. Pillar II focuses on policy and regulatory actions, infrastructure development, capacity development efforts, partnerships and alliances that could facilitate small-holder development to stimulate sustainable poverty reducing growth across African countries.
3. Infrastructure, for purposes of the programme is defined as category 1 infrastructure which consists of capital-intensive forms such as roads and ports (addressed by PIDA) and category 2 rural infrastructure which consists of commercial and post-harvest infrastructure such as: markets, storage, grading, packaging and processing that the ministerial meeting will address.
4. The development of the first category of infrastructure seeks to generate complementarities with the second category in order to enhance smallholder integration into input and output markets and other segments of the value chain.
5. Several studies show that insufficient infrastructure generates exorbitant production costs. Some estimates indicate that with improved infrastructure, the growth rate could be at least 1% higher than it is today.
6. The slow development of efficient domestic and regional production and distribution networks notably transportation infrastructure has:
  - (i) Impeded growth in domestic, regional and international trade and is especially a major barrier for land-locked countries.
  - (ii) Created disincentives to domestic private sector and foreign direct investment in Africa.
  - (iii) Resulted in increased costs of production as private firms invest in alternative forms of infrastructure.

- (iv) Encouraged the emergence of powerful groups of actors who control local agricultural markets and retard the integration of smallholder farmers into major value chains.
- 7. According to the AU/NEPAD, the deficit in infrastructure is one of the key factors that prevent Africa from achieving its full development potential for economic growth and competitiveness in world markets. Access to modern infrastructure remains a challenge to the rural poor who represent 60% of the population in Africa.
- 8. In many countries, the share of transport costs and insurance as a percentage of the value of exports is exorbitant. For example in Malawi it is 55.5%, 51.5% in Chad, 48.8% in Rwanda, 35.6% in Mali, 35.5% in Uganda and 32.8% in Central African Republic.
- 9. **It is important to note that:**
  - a) The regional market demand is projected to grow from USD 50 to 150 Billion by 2030.
  - b) The potential for increased agricultural raw materials exports to Europe is expected to grow from US\$ 8 to US\$10 billion by 2030, and
  - c) The export products from US\$ 3 to 10 billion.
  - d) This is an opportunity for income generation for smallholder farmers, a cumulative growth of \$4.5 billion in the case of export markets, compared with \$30 billion expected from local and “trans-border” markets
- 10. But all this as has been noted, is linked to the existence of quality infrastructural network that can support broad-based agriculture development with attendant benefits. Infrastructure therefore remains a key determinant of trade competitiveness, growth and the development of agricultural value chain.

### III. CHALLENGES FACING RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

- 11. The challenges to rural infrastructure development and emerging trends relate to:
  - a) Poor connectivity between African countries when compared to other regions in the world.
  - b) Rapid urbanization. There is a shift in food demand from dispersed rural areas to urban centres. Rural infrastructure is required to link domestic food supplies to the growing urban consumption centres.
  - c) Huge amounts of resources are needed to build, operate and maintain quality infrastructure in rural areas
  - d) A strong need for pre and post-harvest financial, technical, mechanical and human infrastructure to help farmers organize themselves to bulk, add value to agricultural produce, extend the shelf life of their products, as well as access markets;
  - e) The poor status and maintenance of existing rural infrastructure—resulting in high cost of transport, poor quality products and a low final price in the market.

- f) Scarcity or lack of other complementary social welfare infrastructures such as health and education.
- g) An increasing competition for external global resources for infrastructure development from emerging markets.
- h) An increasing consumer demands for safe and quality standard of products (from farm to table) in addition to demands for quantity, puts more pressure on existing infrastructure.
- i) There is inadequate coordination of agribusiness actors along the value chain.

#### **IV. EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES**

12. A number of emerging opportunities and strengths could help Africa sustain rapid and long term infrastructure development for agricultural value chain growth. Some of the emerging opportunities for countries and the regions include:
  - a. Infrastructure for ICTs which reduces information asymmetries and opens new local, regional and international markets, particularly for high value and commodity products for which transaction costs are significant.
  - b. Regional approach to infrastructure development by RECs that creates the economies of scale necessary to lower costs of meeting rapidly expanding food demands.
  - c. Existing regional integration initiatives
  - d. Global population growth estimated at 9 billion demands a 70% agricultural growth by 2050. 5) Development of common approach for border inspection controls to reduce burdensome and costly barrier to trade procedures for agricultural products.
  - e. Focus on value chain (VC) development. Countries are increasingly moving towards agricultural VC development. Agribusiness development is attracting investments into rural infrastructure-as an embedded service.
  - f. Increasing use of Non-Tariff Barriers (legitimate, arbitrary or adhoc) acting as an incentive into investment in Infrastructure e.g. SPS compliant-regional laboratories for food items in order to have a competitive advantage on regional and global markets.
  - g. The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) a multi-donor fund set up by United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Bank to help countries access high value agricultural markets.
  - h. Increasing emphasis on integrated rural development (multi-sectoral approach to rural development).
  - i. Regional market demand that is projected at US\$50-150 billion in 20 years' time. Potential for increased raw material exports to Europe and that of export products presents an incentive for infrastructural investments.
  - j. Increasing demand for agricultural products in the Middle East and Europe. Only 30% of Africa's arable land is used for agriculture. Exploiting the remaining 70% with requisite infrastructural investments can give it a competitive advantage over other regions.

- k. For Government's, investment in infrastructure is an opportunity of mass job creation especially for millions of youth.
  - l. MDG obligations can be used to leverage additional donor funding for infrastructure development in the quest to meet the goals by 2015.
  - m. Public Private Partnerships (PPP) arrangements. Private sector companies are increasingly interested to fund Infrastructure projects from their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund.
  - n. National agricultural investment plans (NAIPs). All the four CAADP pillars factored in national plans. Pillar 2 interventions should be packaged to attract the private sector investment.
  - o. Government's investment in social infrastructure should be linked to trade related infrastructure, e.g. rural markets should be strategically located near trunk or main roads.
  - p. The high food import bill for African countries necessitates effective policies for import substitution through rural agribusiness and agro-industry development. 18) Decentralized planning creates an opportunity for rural infrastructure development.
13. Given the importance of infrastructure in facilitating agricultural development and especially in the rural areas, it is expected that Ministers in charge of agriculture, Finance and other public organs linked to agriculture and rural development will agree to act on the following:
- 1) Inventories, harmonize, implement, coordinate and enforce multi sectoral policies and strategies for rural infrastructural development;
  - 2) Create an enabling environment for private sector involvement in infrastructure development, investment, delivery and management;
  - 3) Identify and support the development of agricultural growth poles as the engine of economic growth;
  - 4) Support and implement the infrastructure for growth initiatives with the objective of linking the current projects of corridor regional transport infrastructure to potential agricultural growth poles;
  - 5) Governments to increase domestic public sector funding towards rural infrastructure development for increased value addition and market access at national, regional and international levels;
  - 6) To support the development of harmonized infrastructure for Standards enforcing institutions, regional certification facilities for agricultural products and border inspections and controls.
14. Given the apparent failure of purely public sector based interventions in infrastructure development and management in the past, it is necessary to search for institutional innovations that would yield greater success in Africa.

**There is growing pressure on countries to:**

- a) Upgrade trade infrastructure such as airports, ports and roads
- b) Develop infrastructure corridors, in particular roads and rail networks corridors
- c) Adopt regional policies to better coordinate country infrastructure priorities and promote effective interconnection of national road and rail networks to facilitate regional trade and movement of people.

**It is recommended that African governments should therefore:**

- 1) Adopt a demand-driven infrastructure system that is responsive to the agricultural sector and the needs of the people living in the rural areas
- 2) Initiate market led reforms to enhance competitiveness and regional integration
- 3) Create a conducive environment that promotes structured Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for rural infrastructural development.
- 4) Call on continental research institutions to undertake evidence-based infrastructure and trade-related market access research to support rural development in Africa.
- 5) Undertake scoping exercise on existing policies and regulatory, institutional and implementation frameworks.

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*Extracts from, MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR IMPROVED MARKET ACCESS, KIGALI, RWANDA*

# Timeline for Manuscript Corrections and Journal Publication

The timeline for manuscript assessment and publication is as outlined below:

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2. Corrections of manuscript(s) (full papers) must be effected and submitted within 2 weeks after the conference. All submissions must be made to:  
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# Conference Abstracts



# Restructuring Toward Economic Diversification and Symmetrical Regional Development in Nigeria<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Lasisi Lukman & <sup>2</sup>Olapeju Olasunkanmi

*Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro*

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## ABSTRACT

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The Nigeria reality of being the largest economy in the world (576 Billion Dollars in Nominal terms) and its extremely low tax earnings to GDP ratio and also low budget to GDP ratio, which are the more reasons why development seems elusive in the midst of locked potentials, presents a paradox. Beyond the trite malaise of corruption and over-dependence on crude-oil, the Nigerian Federalism, as presently configured, is an inherent albatross to propulsive development and stimulation of new growth poles. This study aims at contributing to the polemic of the imperativeness of restructuring towards economic diversification and symmetrical regional development in Nigeria. The objectives are to investigate Nigeria's GDP in the past years, and ascertain the contributions of each of the 36 States, as well as tax earnings made as a percentage of GDP in each year; investigate the potentials in each of the six geopolitical regions in Nigeria; assess the nexus between Nigeria's present Federal structure and the economy, within the context of states' control over tax, resources and security; and attempt a comparative analysis of Nigeria's political economy with similar multiethnic nations that are politically decentralized, and assess the level of relative development. The study essentially relied on systematic description and analysis of semi-secondary (unprocessed) and secondary data derived from official statistical bulletins, government publications, monographs, and internet articles. The study, *inter alia*, reveals that Nigeria's variant of federalism is over-centralized, in the control of resources, power, and economy, hence unviable for states' competitiveness towards aggregate GDP expansion, reducing regional imbalance and achieving multi-dimensional equality in resources percolation. It recommends, among others, the need for a rejig of the present 36 state structure and top to bottom fiscal model to a more economically viable and prudent six federating units structure, with resources, taxes, and power control devolved in a manner that makes federating units enhanced and unconstrained in attaining highest economic potentials in the country.

**Keywords:** *Competitiveness, Development, Diversification, Economy, Federalism, Growth poles, Regional, Symmetrical.*

## Community Development and Local Governments in Nigeria: a Discourse<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dr. Onodugo, Ifeanyi Chris & <sup>2</sup>Dr Itodo, S. M.

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### ABSTRACT

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This paper examined the Role and Challenges of Local Government in Community Development in Nigeria. Local government since its creation in Nigeria has been and is still involved in the process of community development which ultimately translates increased standard of living among rural dwellers. Though there is glaring evidence of serious inadequacies in basic social services and amenities to the rural community, emphasis in this regard has been placed on mobilization for sustainable community development. Research and studies have shown that local government plays a variety of roles to meet-up with the challenges of community development. The paper is made up of Introduction; Conceptual Clarification; local government and Community Development; Approaches to Community Development, challenges to community development, Conclusion and Recommendations. It concluded that local governments have not been able to play their constitutional roles, let alone making attempts at rural development due in the main to the fact that they have been emasculated by other tiers of government. It suggested the Integrated Rural Development approach in view of its comprehensiveness for sustainable rural development. The paper strongly recommended autonomy for local governments. It further canvassed fiscal and political reforms as avenues for strengthening governance in the Nigerian local government system.

**Keywords:** *Local Government, Community, Development, Governance*





# Qualitative Content Analysis<sup>3</sup> of the Constitution of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development of the Republic of Ghana

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## ABSTRACT

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The concept of rural development is not new to the research community. Several works have been done in this area. In the area of policy review, works like Lowe & Ray (1989), Digby (2003). In the area of tools for rural development, we can make reference to researchers like Javry (2003) and many others who looked at the factors affecting rural development. However, the aspects of the language use in the very documents that communicate the nature, and the foundations of rural development have not been explored by researchers. It is in the light of this discovery that we posit a search into this key area which deserves equal attention. In this work, the researcher will use the qualitative content analysis theory of Becker & Lissmann (1973) and Mayring (1985) to analyze a qualitative data collected from the Rural development Constitution of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural development of the republic of Ghana. The constitution being voluminous for this present research, the researcher will limit this study to two core areas namely core functions and Strategic Policy Objectives of the constitution. In all, the researcher is interested in finding out the significance of the contents of the document on rural development.

**Keywords:** *Content Analysis, Rural Development, Local Government, Republic of Ghana*



# Indigenous Knowledge, Environmental Crisis and Sustainable Livelihoods in Semi-Arid Region of Nigeria

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## ABSTRACT

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The semi arid region of Africa and Nigeria in particular has been in the throes of severe environmental crises engendered by complex interplay of natural and anthropogenic factors and being compounded by equally devastating political crisis, economic crisis, food crisis, energy crisis and increasing vulnerability of the region to climate change (Kolawole, 1988; Mortimore and Adams, 2001; FAO, 2010). As a result, both the ecological and cultural resilience of the people who are mostly rural have been seriously interfered with, thus jeopardizing the sustainability of their livelihood. Various rural development programmes were top-down and based on modernization theory; therefore, they did not achieve much to improve the livelihood of rural population. A significant turn in development thinking is the recognition that “knowledge, not capital, is the key to sustainable social and economic development” and that “knowledge is a key component of the human system and of the interactions between human and ecological systems that lie at the heart of dryland management” (The World Bank, 2000; Mortimore *et al* (2009). Indigenous knowledge as a component of global knowledge system and defined as the knowledge base acquired by indigenous and local peoples over many hundreds of years through direct contact with the environment (Wohling, 2009), has been playing important role in decision-making at local and household levels. This paper posits that identification and codification of Nigerian indigenous knowledge, its integration with modern scientific knowledge and incorporation into rural development programme is *sine qua non* to ameliorating the impact of environmental crises and achieving sustainable livelihood in semi-arid zone of Nigeria. The paper suggests a National Policy on Indigenous knowledge and that such policy must be informed by researches conducted within international framework for research with indigenous people

**Keywords:** *Semi-arid, Indigenous Knowledge, Livelihood, Sustainable Development, Environment, Crises*

# Making Nigeria Food Secure through Small-Scale Farmer-Managed Irrigation: the Case of Komadugu Yobe River Basin<sup>5</sup>

**Samuel Adekunle Oladimeji**

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## ABSTRACT

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At independence agriculture was the driving force in the growth of the economy and Nigeria was self sufficient in food production. The drop in food availability decline (FAD) index, high prices of food and mounting food import bill because of the interplay of certain factors, in the decade after independence were indicative of emerging food crisis in Nigeria (Kolawole, 1988; Kimmage, 1991). Food crisis is linked with food insecurity such that one induces and reinforces the other. Food security is defined as the availability of enough food in order to sustain life and good health of all population at all times across all regions, across all income groups and across all members of households. Food insecurity has dire consequences for national development, rural households and security. Achieving food security is also a veritable strategy for poverty reduction and should be a cardinal goal of rural development. Thus, food security issue is in the front burner of policy action of governments in Nigeria. Food security is a function in the first instance of food production; therefore the paper posits that self-sufficiency in food production is the foremost panacea for food insecurity. It postulates that Komadugu Yobe River in Northeast of Nigeria offer great wetlands opportunities and that sustainable development of small scale irrigation in the ecosystem will increase food production thereby enhancing food security in the nation. Major recommendations made are one, the governments of Nigeria need to engage in concerted efforts to address certain socio-cultural, political and economic factors that exacerbate food insecurity. There is also the need for a policy to ensure sustainability of small-scale farmer managed irrigation system in the wetlands of Nigeria.

**Keywords:** *Food Security, Small-scale Irrigation, Wetlands, Rural Development, Agriculture*



# A Linguistic Overview of Policy Formulations and Implementations in Nigeria: Implications for Sustainable Rural Development

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## ABSTRACT

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The most important and essential thing that nations all over the globe strive to achieve is the development. The achievement of development is anchored on the formulation of policies and programmes by the government. For a developing country like Nigeria to achieve sustainable development a significant proportion of its development policies must be dedicated to the development of rural areas. Language is the principal instrument through which such policies are formulated because it is important to man as it captures his essence and makes him who he is and what he will become. Linguistics is a field that is concerned with the nature of language and communication. The study of linguistics reveals how the use of language for communication is necessary for survival because communication is central to human existence and all human activities, including urban and rural development. At most times, the things we do with language may have serious consequences. This paper takes a sample of data from selected policies formulated for rural development and subsequent implementation or lack of implementation for analysis to attempt a linguistics overview of policy formulations and implementations. The major objective is to ascertain the implications on sustainable rural development in Nigeria. From the findings, policies that are formulated through language are government programmes of action that stem from the officials of the political system. The officials engage in the daily affairs of the political system and are recognized by the members of the system as having the responsibility for the implementation of such policies. The success or failure of development depends on the effective, ineffective or non-implementation of the formulated policies. Based on the findings and conclusion of the paper, some recommendations are put forward for consideration.

**Keywords:** *Linguistics, formulations implementations and Sustainable Rural Development*



# The Place of Semantics and Pragmatics in Resolving Farmers-Fulani Herdsmen Violence for Sustainable Food Security and Rural Development in Nigeria

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## ABSTRACT

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Nations all over the world strive to ensure that their citizens have access to sufficient food to live healthy and productive lives. In Nigeria, agriculture has remained an important aspect of the economy as it provides food and income for the greater part of the population. But there is no doubt today that the violent clashes between farmers and Fulani herdsmen across many parts of Nigeria have added to food insecurity challenges as displacement, death, non-cultivation of farmlands and burning down of farm produce have reduced the quality and quantity of food availability. This is evident in the rising food prices that are becoming unaffordable to the common man. This is also affecting rural development strategies. This paper stresses that it is language that defines our humanity and remains the instrument we use to manipulate our environment for peaceful co-existence and sustainable development. Language achieves this task by ensuring effective communication amongst humans. It is semantics and pragmatics that co-ordinate other aspects of language to ensure effective communication. The findings of the paper reveal that all the troubles that results to those violent clashes can be traced to the problems of communication, and as long as we remain humans, the language aspects of semantics and pragmatics are at the centre of creating understanding of the consequences of food insecurity and the need to live in peace and allow farming activities to continue so that we will be sure of food security as we all need food to survive and ensure development.

**Keywords:** *Pragmatics, Farmers, Fulani Herdsmen, Food Security and Rural Development*

## Corporate Social Responsibility Practices and Rural Development of Nigeria

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### ABSTRACT

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Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is the commitment of business to contribute to sustainable economic development by working with employees, their families, the local community and society at large to improve their lives in a way that is good for business and for development. Caring for the community is an essential component of CSR. CSR gained prominence in Nigeria in the 1990's with the internationalization of the conflict between oil and gas companies and their host communities. This paper seeks to study and understand how corporate enterprises are using CSR initiatives, problems of Corporate Social Responsibilities and the impact of its actions on the socio- economic development of rural areas in Nigeria. The methodology of the study relied on the secondary data and web -based research. The paper concluded that corporate entities have contributed significantly to rural development in Nigeria through their CSR interventions.

**Keywords:** *Corporate Social Responsibility, Rural development, Socio-economic Development, Nigeria*



## Community-Based Rural Production Clusters for Natural Tropical Fibres (Urena, Kenaf & Jute) as Raw Materials in the Production of Geo-Fibre Filter (GFF) - Highway Runoff Sediment Control Filter and Ras- (Re-Circulatory Aquaculture System) Bio-Filters

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### ABSTRACT

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The Geo-Fibre Filter (GFF) Highway Drainage Anti-Pollutant Filtration Device and RAS (Re-circulatory Aquaculture System) Bio-filter were recently innovated at Landmark University, Nigeria and exhibited at the recently concluded IECA's (International Erosion Control Association) Environmental Connection conference in San Antonio TX, USA. A basic component of the filtration device is the fibrous material that constitutes the outer mat layer. Natural fibre materials made from African Tropical Fibre Plants - Urena, Kenaf and Jute have been found to be excellent materials for the outer mat fibrous layer. Prototype sample of GFF/RAS-Biofilter was hydraulically-tested in a Percolation Test Table at Landmark University and was found to exhibit a Filtration capacity of over 40litres per minute (10gpm) which exceeds (United States Environmental Protection Agency) USEPA's minimum run-off requirements of 0.5cfs (cubic feet per second) or 3.75 gallons per minute at construction sites. It has also been discovered that traditional rural production communities (clusters) exist in Ogun State (Ososa/Odo-Owa), in Oyo State (Sabo/Ibadan), and Osun State (Wasimi/Ejigbo) centres respectively who are presently producing these fibre materials for other traditional uses such as "koinkoin" by Yoruba people and "soso" by Hausa people - the koinkoin is traditionally being used by natives for dish washing and as bathing sponge. It is being investigated in this study if the potential production capacity of all these traditional production clusters can sustain the continuous supply of the GFF product to meet USEPA's construction environmental compliance demand in the USA. The Ososa-Odo-Owa and Sabo-Ibadan production clusters are composed mainly of Hausa-Male settlers while the Wasimi-Ejigbo production cluster consists of mainly Female settlers from Ivory Coast. The production process consists of fetching the Urena Lobata tree stems from nearby forest, soaking/retting in water, stick-pounding to separate bast fibres, drying and hand-separation (shredding) to achieve finer fibres and finally sun-drying before packing. Visits and investigation to these various traditional production clusters seem to suggest that sufficient raw material feedstock can be produced from these clusters to sustain GFF production/supply to the US environmental market. In case of shortfall in the production of Urena, Kenaf and Jute have also been identified to be good fibre substitutes. This therefore constitutes a major stride in the national efforts of meeting rural poverty alleviation/poverty reduction strategies (PRS) and providing the desired value-addition to Nigerian agricultural, forest and local natural resources to meet export demand.

**Keywords:** *Plant/Forest Resources, Agricultural raw materials, environmental product, RAS-Recirculatory and Aquaculture Biofilters*

## An Empirical Analysis of Tax Leakages and Economic Growth in Nigeria

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### ABSTRACT

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The government has for the umpteenth time complained of the widespread incidence of tax avoidance and evasion in the country as companies and other taxable persons employ various tax avoidance devices to escape or minimize their taxes or deliberately employ fraudulent ways and means of evading tax altogether. Sometimes with the active connivance of the tax officials. This paper empirically examined the economic implication of tax leakage on the Nigerian economy. A survey research design was adopted and responses were obtained through the use of a well structured questionnaire administered to 185 respondents. Findings from the empirical analysis using Kendall's W-test and chi-square test statistics reveal that tax evasion and avoidance have adversely affected economic growth and development in Nigeria and also that lack of good governance is the basis for which tax leakages activities is perpetrated. The study therefore recommends that government should embrace and promote good governance so as to encourage voluntary compliance of tax liability by the citizenry.

**Keywords:** *Tax Avoidance, Tax Evasion, Economic Growth and Development, Good Government*





# Between Propaganda and Truth: Socioeconomic Realities and the Prospects of Nigeria Development Under Buhari Administration

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## ABSTRACT

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Revelations and assurances from both sides of the political divides in Nigeria prior to the 2015 general elections have seemingly turned out riddles. While the outgoing PDP-led government in all its programmes and aggressive media onslaught assured Nigeria that all was well and that Nigeria was on the path to historically unsurpassed transformation and development, the new office seekers, APC, was busy providing the hint that Nigeria was in dare danger; but yet went ahead to make appealing promises that the nation will get fixed once elected into office. With recent post-election evidence of collapsed fiscal capacity of states and federal governments, evident in their inability to pay workers salaries, stark revelation of massive infrastructural decay that reveals years of utter neglect across Southeast, South-South, Southwest and Northern part of the country as reveal in the ongoing nationwide inspection by the Senator Barnabas Gemade-led Committee of the Senate, one wonders how fast the pre-election evidences of transformation have taken their flight from almost every corner of Nigeria. Abasing the pre-election assurances of 'the so-called a historical transformation' and 'the huge promise of instant rescue', the Nigerian economy has continued its sharp decline. Consequently, indications are that Nigeria may indeed be heading towards inevitable paralysis if the new administration fails to adopt sound recovery measures. Towards situating a sustainable future, this paper adopting content analysis of print and electronic media, attempts critical analysis of official claims and promises in the periods immediately before the 2015 general election to determine what critical steps needed to be taken by the new administration to restore good governance and recover the embattled Nigerian destiny.

**Keywords:** *Good Governance, Propaganda and Truth, Socioeconomic Realities, Fiscal Capacity Decline.*

# Compulsory Online Learning Training for Rural Youth: a Strategy for the Achievement of Diversification and Sustainability in Rural Development

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## ABSTRACT

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This paper presents the study conducted between January and March 2016 to determine the extent to which compulsory training of rural youth on online learning brings about diversification and sustainability in rural development. Lecturers, postgraduate students and undergraduate students from higher institutions in Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu and Imo state were used for collecting data for the study. The study adopted survey approach as primary data source for investigating the research problems. Predesigned self-administered questionnaire was used for data collection. A total of 280 respondents were involved in the study of which 42.86% were lecturers, 32.38% were postgraduate students and 22.86% were undergraduate students. The study has indicated sustainable rural development for a significant proportion of respondents (72.5%). The results also show that compulsory online learning training brings about diversification in rural development.

**Keywords:** *Online Learning Training, Compulsory, Diversification, Sustainability, Rural Development.*



# The Role of Agriculture in Poverty Reduction with the Intervention of Third National Fadama Development Office of World Bank Assisted Project

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## ABSTRACT

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The role of agriculture towards poverty reduction, food security sustainability, wealth creation and increase in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of a country cannot be over emphasized. The third National Fadama project of the World Bank is designed towards empowering small holders farmers through co-operative society group in ensuring food sufficiency, accountability, income generation and improving the living standard of rural farmers. Agriculture has been relegated to the background since the advent of crude oil thereby depriving Nigerian farmers access to micro credit facility to boost their agriculture businesses. The paper examines the intervention role of the World Bank in agriculture through the third national Fadama development project towards ensuring poverty reduction and food sufficiency in Nigeria. It is therefore recommended that government should partner with other international donor agencies towards ensuring that grants are made available to Nigerian farmers for the purpose of massive production of agricultural products.

**Keywords:** *Food Security, Poverty Reduction, Wealth Creation, Gross Domestic Product, Fadama.*



## Critical Issues in the Valuation of Shrines<sup>14</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

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The valuation of property for different reasons and purposes has existed since time immemorial. The progenitors of this exercise have always had recourse to either the international valuation standard or the varied local and national standards without much emphasis on philosophical, social and cultural circumstances surrounding shrines as property. In the valuation of shrines however, many factors come into play that the application of the international valuation standards will report a value that totally neglects the world view of the people who own the shrine and incidentally will lead to the reporting of a value inconsistent with the principles of valuation. This study examined shrines as property the valuation of which requires articulate and objective analysis of the culture of the community who own, use and worship them. The study adopted the use of questionnaires and interviews in the collection of data as well as the application of relevant statistical tools in the analysis of data collected. The study concluded that though shrines are properties that could be owned, they are special properties that are rarely sold in the market like other properties and may not likely be moved from place to place. They possess some unique characteristics that set them apart from other properties such that special care must be taken in the assessment of the value to reflect the views of the community which own, use and worship in them.

**Keywords:** *Shrines, Valuation, Standards, World view, Community and Characteristics.*



## Community Government System and Rural Sustainability in Ezi-Mgbidi Autonomous Community of Imo State: an Assessment

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### ABSTRACT

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Recognizing the ineffectiveness of the current Local government system and the imperative of driving through its policy of rural transformation in Imo state, the Imo state government established what it termed the Community Government system (invariably a fourth-tier system of government). The objective of this paper therefore is to undertake an assessment of the Community Government system in Imo state, with focus on Ezi-Mgbidi autonomous community; to determine its performance in line with stated policy objectives, determine the challenges that has bedeviled its operations and the prospects of meeting policy goals. The Methodology used is the content analysis and public survey. The tool of analysis is the Mean/Standard Mean (SM) analysis for the purpose of ascertaining degrees of relationship. From the analysis of data, findings reveal that the Community Government system has performed very poorly in meeting policy expectations. The reasons adduced are mainly; lack of proper operational guideline resulting from jurisdictional incongruence between the existing Local government system and the initiative regarding policy directives and policy implementation. This paper also observes that cynicism, lack of corporation by civil servants, general apathy in embracing the initiative at the local level, politics and politicization of the initiative, unsustainable political will, and above all is the challenge of funding posit permanent clog in the actualization of the objectives of Community Government System. The paper concludes and recommends that the Community Government system though a potentially viable initiative will require proper re-engineering and reconstruction that will bring about appropriate guideline and clarity of purpose, strong political will, proper community mobilization, with motivational measures, proper funding and policy consistency, more so is inclusiveness, collectivism, prioritization and the requisite rural infrastructure.

**Keywords:** *Community Government System, Rural Sustainability, Policy Consistency, Re-engineering and Reconstruction.*

## The Nigerian State and Boko Haram Insecurity Incidence 2009-2015

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### ABSTRACT

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It is common knowledge that failed states are fertile grounds for terrorism which threatens their national security. Nigeria is one of such states where the elements of failure such as corruption, low GNP, loss of legitimacy, high rate of poverty among others have given rise to the activities of Boko Haram defined as horrendous, murderous, violent, hateful, and which uses terror and violence to make demands on the state. These acts of terror by the terrorist group has been fingered as being responsible for the attacks that have led to wonton destruction of property with varying degrees of damage in addition to inflicting bodily harm, debilitating permanent disabilities and outright loss of lives. This study explored the relationship between the Nigerian state and the incidence of Boko Haram therein. Also, the effect of the incidence of Boko Haram on the security and political economy of the Nigerian state were examined, more specifically, the study highlighted the conditions necessitating the emergence and persistence of the Boko Haram sect. This study which employed descriptive analysis relied mostly on secondary data sourced from books, journals and articles. In like manner, two hypotheses were formulated to guide the study while the frustration-aggression theory was adopted as theoretical framework. Some of the findings showed that features of failure as articulated in the study are present in Nigeria. These features provided a strong correlation and direct link between the Nigerian state and incidence of Boko Haram. The study concluded that these factors created the conditions necessary for terrorism to thrive in Nigeria and consequently, threaten the security and political economy of the country. The study recommended that to deal with these challenges, the Nigerian state need to reexamine its character so as to address the issues that gave rise to acts of terrorism as well as re-strategize on how to provide the needs of the vast majority of her citizens, the proverbial common man.

**Keywords:** *Boko Haram and Insecurity Incidence.*



# Expropriation of Africa's Rural Economy: the Case of Isu Community in Ebonyi State of Nigeria<sup>17</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

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Africa is essentially a rural continent inspite of its manifest rapid urbanization façade. Traditionally, rural goods are made wholesome finished products for exchange and consumption within the family and neighbourhoods. The people had then a robust economy sufficient for them. Modern contacts put a spoke in the wheel of rural economic development in Africa. Colonialism, imperialism and growing globalization open up rural economy to national and international exploitation. Most rural products are now classified as cash crops and raw materials. Goods that were hitherto food crops, are now commercialized and expropriated by national and international economies. The case of Isu community in Ebonyi, South-East of Nigeria was selected for detailed study of the pattern and effects of economic exploitation of the rural areas. Three focus groups discussants were selected for an enquiry into the community's economic structure and how they influence the community's economy. It was found that the middlemen activities in the rural area have weakened the productive moral of the realities. It has changed the subsistence production value to commercialized production which alienates the people from their products. The people are divested of the motivation for production. The paper recommends community resources management approach to pool resources for investment, utilization and sustainable development.

**Keywords:** *Expropriation, urbanization and Africa's Rural Economy.*

## The Factors Responsible for the Perpetual Thuggery in Northern Nigeria: an Investigation of Gombe State 2011-2015

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### ABSTRACT

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**T**huggery has become a pervasive phenomenon affecting innocent individuals and democratic activities in Gombe state. This research is an attempt to examine the factors responsible for the incessant thuggery on democratic and social activities. The menace is responsible for poor political culture as it results to death or poses deadly threats by deterring individuals to actively participate into the political processes and routine socio-economic activities at their homes, shops and on the streets within the state. Accordingly, the objectives of this study is to investigate the factors responsible for the perpetual of thuggery in the state. The method of data collection and analysis is quantitative and qualitative which complement each other through the use of simple percentage and tabulation. Furthermore, the state is divided according to the three senatorial districts whereby one local government is selected representing each selected zone. Similarly, Social Learning Theory by Albert Bandura is used as the tool for analysis in the study which argues that individual learn violent behaviours as a result of imitating a model in their society and subsequently politicians manipulated for their selfish political gain. Finally, the findings of the study shows that thuggery in the state is as a result of selfish interest of the thugs themselves, unemployment, illiteracy, poor governance, group sentiment, political manipulation, poverty, injustice and inactive security agencies.

**Keywords:** *Politics, Thuggery, Governance, Development and Society.*





## Application of Remote Sensing in the Management and Control of Farmers and Pastoralists Conflicts in Nigeria

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### ABSTRACT

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Farmers and pastoralists in Nigeria have been at war for many years over the use and control of land for farming and grazing. This resulted into lost of lives and properties. In order to manage both farming and grazing peacefully, government provided cattle routes for migrating pastoralist, in consideration with lands that was designated for farming and grazing. These provisions didn't take into consideration the growing population in Nigeria as most of the time there are complains of encroachment into farmlands by the pastoralist as they are grazing or migrating from one place to another. On the other hand, the pastoralists equally complain of encroachment into the cattle routes by the farmers for each planting season. Remote Sensing and Geographical Information System (GIS) will be used in the management and control of land between the farmers and the pastoralists. Spatio-temporal images covering a specific area of study will be used as the primary data. The grazing lands, cattle route and farmlands will be updated in relation to the increase of population and demand of land. The processed images will be subjected to spatial analysis in order to know the Extent of farm lands and grazing lands, identify which area or cattle route that was encroached by the farmer or the pastoralists. The study will also analyze the possibility of settling the pastoralist in one place permanently. The study will identify the grazing reserves that needed improvement or provision of basic amenities such as veterinary clinic, water supply, elephant grass and other vital facilities that will make a nomad stable in one place.

**Keywords:** *Remote Sensing, Farmers, Pastoralists, Conflict, Management and Control.*



## Growth Point Analysis as a Panacea for Sustainable Rural Development

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### ABSTRACT

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The United Nations (UN) report that as at 2015, sixty one percent (61%) of urban dwellers in African mostly in sub-Saharan region including Nigeria were living in slums is alarming. Thirty eight percent (38%) are without access to piped water while fifty seven percent (57%) are without access to sewage and drainage facilities. This is potentially disastrous and certainly not sustainable given population density in most urban cities. Even more alarming is the growing gap between the “have-nots”. This gap manifest particularly in the affordability of land where the most priced urban properties is bought up either by large corporations or by the government. The effects are devastating one of which is that it forces trickle migration out of the city by those who cannot afford to live in it. The Catastrophic consequence is urban sprawl which depicts the emergence of informal settlements on the outskirts of cities where transport links do not work properly and have very limited basic services. This study examined the use of growth point ranking as one way of pursuing the urbanization of our rural areas. This method involves the analysis of the neighbourhood which would assist in the comparison and ranking in terms of their function and facilities. The study adopted the analysis of the neighbourhood in terms of their function and facilities encompassing the main social, economic and physical infrastructure parameters subject to planning. The study concluded that by establishing relative position of growth point as service centers for rural areas, life in our rural settlements would be greatly enhanced while the drift to towns and the unnecessary hiccups in our urban areas would be drastically reduced.

**Keywords:** *Growth point, Slums, Rural Development, Urbanization, Infrastructure, Sprawl.*

## Inclusion of Engineering Design in Extension Education: a Tool for Achieving Sustainable Rural Development

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### ABSTRACT

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This paper is based on a study conducted in 2015 to assess the impact of the inclusion of engineering design in extension education on rural development. Data collected from lecturers and postgraduate students in engineering from ten states in the six geo-political zones of the country such as Anambra, Imo, Benue, Niger, Adamawa, Delta, Oyo, Ogun, Sokoto, and Katsina were used for the study. Pre-designed self-administered questionnaire was used for data collection from 148 respondents. The study results showed that 68.92% of the respondents were lecturers and 31.08% postgraduate students. One hundred and twelve or 75.68% of the respondents agreed that inclusion of engineering design in extension education will aid creativity, 104 (70.27%) agreed that it will aid solving problems and 109 (73.65%) agreed that it will increase acquisition of critical thinking and these outcomes will in turn lead to sustainable rural development. There is the need for the leaders and NGOs in Africa to integrate the proposed engineering design in extension education.

**Keywords:** *Engineering Design, Extension Education, RURAL development, Creativity, Solving Problems.*



## Integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Mathematics Teaching and Learning in Nigeria for Global Competitiveness

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### ABSTRACT

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The pace of changes brought about by new technologies has had a significant effect on the way people live, work and play worldwide. Information and communication technology while an important area of study on its own right, is having a major impact across all curriculum area especially Mathematics. This paper critically examined the possible integration of ICT in Mathematics teaching and learning through the use of spreadsheet, data logging, database, simulation, internet, e-mail and CD-ROMs. The paper also identified lack of adequate expertise, limited internet connectivity, poor infrastructures, high cost of hardware and software among others as challenges confronting ICTs in Mathematics teaching and learning. Specific teachers barriers on the use of ICT in Mathematics teaching and learning were also highlighted. Finally, the paper proffered Suggestions for enhancing the teaching and learning of Mathematics through ICT.

**Keywords:** *Information and Communication Technology, Spread Sheets, Data Logging, Simulations, Database, CD ROMS, Internet, Email.*



## Isolated Urban Corridors: Towards Sustainable Greenway Development in Kano<sup>23</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

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A pedestrian pathway near an active railway may seem absurd at first, but as communities seek alternatives to the automobile, greenway system may be viable solution. Much of the planning for the greenway networks revolves around community input. Thus, this study aims to explore ways in which public needs can foster more sustainable development processes through greenway systems by providing answers on how public need influences the development of urban greenway along active railway corridors. To facilitate the main study that will cover all the isolated corridors within Kano metropolis, a pilot study was carried using a purposive case of an urban railway system that runs through Nassarawa local government area in Kano metropolis. Population for the study includes corridors users and property owners along the corridor. Quantitative and qualitative methods of research were used to get a better understanding of site typology, site inventory, and future program requirements. Qualitative data was gathered by observing and analyzing the sites directly through observation checklist (spatial analysis) and structured questionnaire were distributed to the corridor users and property owners along the corridor. The study revealed that several factors that influenced the development process along the corridor are the available railway right-of-way widths, connections to Public spaces, and pedestrian routes. It explores what a designer can do to create a safe and successful greenway system. By having multi-functioning spaces, people can interact with the environment and learn natural processes. The study spans much of the corridor, analyses possible routes from home to destinations and greens paces throughout the neighbourhood, including commercial areas. Road crossing to have speed tables with narrowed roadway, pavement change, and indicator treesets.

**Keywords:** *Greenway, Kano Metropolis, Public needs, Sustainable Development, Urban Railway Corridor.*

## Marketing in Governance for Sustainable National Development in Nigeria<sup>24</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

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Governance, as a human enterprise is beset with problem of underdevelopment mostly in African Countries. In view of this, nations are always in search for strategies or means of eliminating the problems militating against governance toward achieving sustainable development which is the need of citizens. Therefore, the paper aimed at identifying how marketing tools can be applied to realize sustainable development by governance. The study established the link between marketing and governance through, identifying those who undertake governance as agents (marketer) of managing a country's economic and social resources while marketing is conceptualized as governance tool for creating and delivering citizens' value (sustainable development) to capture value - loyalty, obedience, support to government in return from citizens. It was established that governance fails to achieve sustainable development because government applies principles, rules and procedures of "acting as they perceive it", "as they judge it" and "as they define it subjectively". This is known as "marketing myopia" which implies government intent to do a job to satisfy the citizens and themselves mostly, but in the process of doing so, the future interest of the citizens are mortgaged which hinders the attainment of sustainable development. The paper suggests that marketing concept should be the principle, rule and procedure of governance which will produce highly desirable societal outcomes, namely; satisfaction of citizens' needs and wants, and economic efficiency in the long term. Marketing concept is a corporate state of mind under which management requires that all marketing functions should be integrated and company policies built on the basis that customers' needs and wants are the focus of the operation of a firm in which customers (citizens) – and citizens needs are recognized as the most important. This is to be operational in three philosophies of (1) consumer orientation, (2) profitable sales volume and (3) co-ordinated marketing efforts. In the application of these philosophies, governance must; (1) first identify infrastructural needs of the people, build people's projects value hierarchy, choose projects based on people most valuable in line with government resources, and to ensure the project is completed; (2) execute projects based on those that will offer value to majority of the citizens; and (3) all relevant government agencies, ministries and departments must be involved to ensure the effort is co-ordinated for optimum result. Finally, marketing in governance will enhance the creation and survival of many businesses as that will increase income per capita, employment, GNP, GDP and demand for goods and services.

**Keywords:** *Marketing Concept, Government and Sustainable Development.*

## Infant Growth Monitoring a Panacea to Meeting Nutrition Challenges in Rural Area: a Case Study in Igbere Bende Local Government Area of Abia State

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### ABSTRACT

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The study determined the growth pattern of infants (0-6month) of age. Some of the identifiable factors that influenced nutritional status of infants in the rural area were also considered in the study. A prospective cohort study was carried out in the five health centres in the study area. The period of the study was from May 2014 to October 2014. A total of one hundred and seventy-five (175) mothers and infants were recruited for the study and infants growth were monitored for a period of 6 months. Information obtained from questionnaire included education, occupation, income level, and infant feeding practices of the mothers. Anthropometric measurement (weight, length and head circumference) was carried out on the infants and monitored at each visit for the study period and also anthropometric indicators and growth velocity of the infants were determined and compared to World Health Organization (WHO) child growth standard. Data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics, t-test and regression analysis. The result revealed that less than half (40.6%) of the mothers had secondary school uncompleted compared to 29.1% of their husbands while 49.1% of their husbands completed secondary school compared to 33.7% of the mothers. The mothers studied were mostly farmers, petty traders and low income earners. The study also revealed low (2.3%) exclusive breastfeeding practices and majority (78.3%) of the mothers initiated breastfeeding immediately after birth for the index child. The low socioeconomic characteristics of the mothers significantly influenced ( $P < 0.05$ ) nutritional status of the infants. The growth velocity of the infants almost followed the same progression as that of WHO child growth standard with slight variations. Therefore, nutrition education campaign on proper infant feeding practices (exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6months of life) should be community-based in order to tackle nutrition challenges and/or malnutrition (undernutrition) in the rural areas thereby improve maternal and infant health.

**Keywords:** *Nutritional Status, Exclusive Breastfeeding, Growth Velocity, Child Growth Standard.*

## River Basin Development in Nigeria: the Dadin Kowa Project; 1986 to 2015

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### ABSTRACT

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This paper argues that water resource utilization is a sure way of enhancing human development through increased food production, improved hygiene, employment and environmental conservation, power supply and tourism and leisure services. Consequent upon the above, the paper interrogates the Federal Government of Nigeria's water resource utilization policy by examining the Dadin Kowa Project which was administered by the Upper Benue River Basin Development Authority (UBRBDA) between 1986 and 2015. The investigation revealed that the Project failed to achieve its aim, objectives and purpose optimally owing to the following reasons: policy inconsistency as a result of discontinuity (dislocation) in governance, lack of agricultural extension services, lack of funds which also led to lack of irrigation and other relevant infrastructure that would have ensured sustainable water resource management. The paper advocates that there is the need for continuation of policies even when there is a change of leadership and even within the same leadership especially if such a policy is development and people oriented; the need for adequate funding of laudable projects that would cause development and human well-being such as the Dadin Kowa Project. Adequate funding of the Project would have in turn facilitated the provision of skills and other infrastructure that would have caused the Project to succeed. Information and data for the paper was collected through relevant oral, written and internet sources and through participation and experience.

**Keywords:** *Water Resource, Project, Human Development, UBRBDA, and Dadin Kowa.*





## Rural Development in Nigeria: the Gateway to Improving the Standard of Living of the Rural Population<sup>27</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

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Rural development involves a package of measures aimed at transforming and modernizing the rural area and its population and integrating it into the national development plan in order to stamp out the scourge of poor rural life and its environment and to improve enormously the standard of living and socio-political life of the rural population. Rural development has suffered a perpetual neglect with no appropriate and strategic plans to tackle the challenges, since the agricultural sector of the economy lost its role as the cornerstone of the economy of Nigeria. The paper examines the concepts of rural development, factors impeding rural development and the strategies necessary to apply in order to achieve a successful and sustainable rural development. It is therefore recommended that government policy on rural development ought to include a national economic integration plan for the rural areas: a master plan to rural development. Economic transformation of the rural areas is achievable by investing heavily in agriculture, upgrading of rural infrastructure, establishment of agro processing industries to handle the processing of agricultural produce relevant to the area concerned. This will not only create jobs but also ease pressure on the urban areas.

**Keywords:** *Rural Development, Standard of living, Economic Transformation, Rural Infrastructure, Agriculture.*



## Socio-Economic and Cultural Factors Militating against Sustainable Community Development in Nigeria: a Study of Izzi Local Government Area of Ebonyi State

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### ABSTRACT

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Over the years, Izzi Local Government Area of Ebonyi state has been experiencing a slow rate of sustainable development in the area. Based on this inappropriateness, the study was designed to empirically investigate the socio-economic and cultural factors militating against rural development in Izzi Local Government Area. The paper defines community development to mean all the strategies aimed at promoting the socio-economic status of the rural communities. It aimed at motivating the rural dwellers to utilize their full potentials in attempt to embark on the project that will help better their living standard. The study is anchored on the functionalist theory in anthropological studies. One hundred and eighty respondents were randomly selected and used for the research. Questionnaire was the key instrument used for data collection. The data collected were analysed using SPSS and chi-square. Tables, charts and percentages were used to present the results. Several findings were made as regards socio-economic and cultural factors militating against rural development in Izzi Local Government Area. One major factor is that government pay less attention to rural dwellers which in turn affect development negatively. Secondly, cultural belief system of the people also affects their development. Thirdly, inadequate planning of developmental projects caused by lack of collaborative efforts of the government and the rural youths also hinder development in Izzi L.G.A. finally, it was recommended that government should focus more attention in the development of rural areas in order not to allow them feel neglected. Rural dwellers should learn to welcome, appreciate and harness development despite their cultural belief system and there should be a collaborative effort of the government and the people more especially the youths in the planning and implementation of rural development projects in order to enhance sustainability of the entire whole.

**Keywords:** *Community Development, Sustainability, Socio-economic, Cultural Factors, Rural dwellers.*

## Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) for Sustainable Development in Africa<sup>29</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

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Spatial Data Infrastructure are technologies, policies and institutional arrangements that will facilitate the availability of and access to spatial data for all levels of Government, the commercial sector, and citizens in general that can be used in the provision of infrastructure. Development of SDI resources is heavily dependent upon land related activities. Effective provision of these infrastructures for developmental purposes is dependent on the availability of spatial information since it provides a base or structure of practices and relationships among data producers and users that facilitate data sharing and use. Sustainable development is a development without catastrophic setbacks in the foreseeable future. SDI provide the ways of accessing, sharing and using geographic data that enables far more comprehensive analysis of data to help decision-making processes in providing a sustainable infrastructure.

**Keywords:** *Spatial Data, Infrastructure, Sustainable, Development.*



## The Sustainability of Managing Education in Nigeria for Economic Security<sup>30</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

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The paper examined the sustainability of managing education in Nigeria for economic security. Economic security was considered in this paper as the condition of having stable income or other resources to support a standard of living now and in the foreseeable future. This of course entails probable continued solvency, predictability of the future cash flow of a person and employment security. Sustainability in this paper was taken to mean the sustained quantitative and qualitative positive information of the lives of the people that does not only enhance their material well-being but also ensures their social well individuals in Nigeria were considered. Planning, organization, coordinating, staffing, budgeting, and evaluating, were considered as the main processes to managing education for economic security. Useful recommendations such as provision of entrepreneurship education and financial support by both the state and federal government to the youths to embark on small-scale enterprises among others were proffered.

**Keywords:** *Education, Economic Security and Sustainability.*



## Traditional Rulers and Democratic Consolidation in Nigeria

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### ABSTRACT

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The traditional rulers are the paramount authority or natural ruler in any given community. They provide a system of administration from which law and order came and provided a stable system of governance. The objective of this paper is to examine the role of traditional institutions in Nigerian Democratic consolidation. The paper which is theoretical in nature basically draws its arguments from secondary data including textbooks, journals, articles and publications. The paper reveals that the current 1999 constitution did not mention the traditional institution at all thereby reversing most of the gains the institution made over the years, traditional rulers possess accurate local knowledge going back many years and may also have good networks of communication with the grassroots through title holders, traditional ruler were accorded with responsibility during colonial rule, they were members of colonial administration apparatus they were given wide power over matters in their domain. The paper concludes that, traditional rulers play a very significant role of informally managing conflict and peacemaking meetings when matters get out of hand, they also serves as advisory role to the local council. The paper recommends that for effective political transformation to be achieved the need to involve traditional ruler which should courts with some responsibility to 1999 constitution they serves as bridge between the government and the people, advisory role to government in administration at both national and sub-national levels and to serves the role in conflict management.

**Keywords:** *Traditional Rulers, Democracy, Administration, Peace Building, Colonial rule.*



## Diversification of the African Rural Economy through Industrialization<sup>32</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

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Diversifying African rural sector is significant to sustained economic development. One of the strategies of achieving diversification is through industrialization. Without strong industries to create jobs and add value to rural raw materials, African rural sector risk remaining shackled by joblessness and poverty. Accelerating industrialization can potentially contribute to the expansion of trade within Africa and between Africa and the rest of the world through the diversification of exports. Moreover, creating food-processing industries in rural Africa would contribute to lifting a significant number of Africans from poverty. The increased demand for Africa's natural resources, together with increased urbanization and consumer demand for processed goods within the continent provide an opportunity for resource-based industrialization. Using expo facto research design, the study draws literature from secondary sources. The review shows current trend and challenges of rural poverty in Africa. The study advocates the need to significantly transform the economies of African countries from the current low income to middle-income levels. This will significantly add value to Africa's large reservoir of natural and agricultural resources and tremendously boost economic performance as well as uplift many Africans out of poverty.

**Keywords:** *Diversification, Industrialization, African Rural Economy, Economic Development.*



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