ASSESSMENT OF THE ADOPTION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES DISSEMINATED BY COMMUNITY-BASED AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN KWARA STATE, NIGERIA

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CERTIFICATION

This research project written by Esther OluwatosinFABIYI has been read, approved, and adjudged to meet part of the requirements for the award of Master of Science Degree in Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology of the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State, Nigeria.

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DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to GOD the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the gracious, merciful, loving and ever faithful one.

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FABIYI Esther Oluwatosin

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ABSTRACT

The study Specifically profiled the agricultural technologies disseminated by Community-Based Agriculture and Rural Development Project (CBARDP) extension agents among farmers, determined the level of adoption of agricultural technologies disseminated by CBARDP and examined factors influencing adoption of agricultural technologies with a view of assessing adoption of CBARDP technologies in Kwara state

The study was carried out in the nine Local Government Areas of the study area where the CBARDP was staged. A multi-stage sampling procedure was employed to select respondents for the study. Two communities each were selected from the participating LGAs making a total of 18 communities. At the second stage, between nine and 20 respondents were proportionally selected from each community based on the registration of participating farmers in the communities. In all, a total of 270 respondents were selected for the study. Structured interview schedule was used to source for information while, the data were described using frequency counts, percentages, mean and standard deviation. Chi-square, regression and correlation analyses were used to draw inferences from the two hypotheses and factor analysis was used to isolate crucial factors influencing level of adoption.

The result of the study showed that mean age was 52.1±6 years, with a majority (74.1%) male participants who had 4.4±4.3 years in education, 69.6 percent were Muslims, and 92.2 percent were married with mean household size of 7±2 people. CBARDP farmers' adoption level for crops, fishery, poultry, processing and cattle enterprise respectively were moderate.While

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livestock had a low adoption, orchard had a high adoption level and agro-processing enterprise had 50 percents each for high and low level adoption of technologies among farmers in the study area. It was also revealed that the overall adoption level of technologies among farmers was moderate (66.0%). Chi-square analyses showed that there were significant association between sex(χ^2= 23.934; p= 0.01), marital status (χ^2= 34.66;p= 0.01), types of farmland (χ^2= 222.404; p= 0.01), position held in the organization (χ^2=23.429; p= 0.01), nature of farming (χ^2= 13.594; p= 0.001),Cosmopoliteness (χ^2= 23.583; p= 0.01) and farmers' level of adoption. Correlation analysis revealed a positive and significant relationship between household size(r= 0.201 p ≤0.05), farm size (H) (r= 0.537; p ≤0.05) and farmers' adoption of technologies. Furthermore the study revealed a significant correlation between complexity (r= 0.439; p ≤ 0.05) as one of the technology characteristics and farmers' adoption level. Regression analysis revealed that Complexity (b= -0.181; p ≤0.05), divisibility (b= -0.270; p ≤0.01), compatibility (b= -0.696; p ≤0.01), and year of involvement in farming activities (b= -0.150; p ≤0.05), were significant but negatively contributed to the level of adoption of CBARDP technology among farmers while, only year joined CBARDP (b= 0.082; p≤0.05) had a positive significant contribution to adoption level. Also, seven crucial factors: education, technology characteristic, experience, farm-related, exposure, gender-related and awareness factor had influence on farmers' level of adoption of technologies.

In conclusion, adoption level of CBARDP farmers in Kwara State was found to be moderate (66.0%) and seven crucial factors influenced their level of adoption.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

Agriculture in Nigeria economy is as paramount for the survival and overall wellbeing of her citizens as the air we breathe because it provides strategic assets and sources of food, clothing, and foreign exchange earnings for the country. According to Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries OPEC Fund for International Development (2013)'s assertion that Agriculture represents the main driver of economic growth and poverty reduction in the developing world, it has become imperative to ensure that the goal of agricultural productivity is attained in Nigeria.

African Development Bank assisted Community Based Agriculture and Rural Development Project [AfDB-CBARDP] is one of the poverty reduction projects given birth to, as a result of rural sector neglect and was initiated in 2000, in which the Government adopted the rural development strategy for poverty alleviation in 2001. It is to contribute to food security and increase access to rural infrastructures and to reduce poverty from 70 percent to 50 percent by the year 2011(KWADP Farmers' focus, 2006). In line with the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy [NEEDS], the Community Driven Development (CDD) was seen as the most efficient and effective approach to poverty alleviation in Nigeria. Under this arrangement, funds for sustainable development would actually get to the communities with the intention of reducing poverty through improvement of the livelihood and living condition of the rural communities.

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AfDB-CBARDP handbook revealed that, the project is a National programme supported by the three tiers of government namely: the Federal, States and the Local Government councils and assisted by the African Development Bank. The project has been specially designed to implement the rural development strategy with emphasis on vulnerable groups especially women and youths. It ensures community participation in the design and implementation of the project activities and sustainability by providing the institutional support that will enable service providers to participate effectively, and be more responsive to the desire of the rural village areas (RVAs). It also provides financing framework for demand driven development and has activities related to agriculture and rural infrastructure as well as capacity building.

Also, the project has a goal of reducing poverty which according to Sidi (2008), is 'a condition of having little or no money or other endowments and not being able to get the necessaries of life", through improving the livelihoods and the living conditions of the rural poor by empowering and supporting them to effectively manage their own development. The objective is to contribute to the country's food security efforts, increase access to rural infrastructural facilities and reduce poverty in project areas (AfDB-CBARDP Manual, 2006). According to FAO (1996), food security is a "condition in which all people at all time have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preference for an active and healthy life". With the above goal and objectives, the project has four components namely; capacity building and training; production development; community development, and project management and coordination. The coordination, monitoring, evaluation, supervision and technical backstopping were handled by the projects coordinating unit-project support office (PCU-PSO) of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD). The Federal Ministry of Finance (FMF) and The National Planning

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Commission (NPC) provides the enabling environment and also participated in the joint monitoring and supervision visits (AfDB-CBARDP Manual 2006). At the State level, the ADPs provide necessary technical support to both the Local Government and Communities. In line with the AfDB working document, a ten member technical support team (TST) drawn from the ADPs runs the implementation of the project at the State level. At the local level, Local Government Councils (LGCs) provides the resources needed for the implementation of the project, are responsible for the overall project planning, coordination and policy development (AfDB-CBARDP Manual 2006). At the community level:

i) Community Driven Development Teams (CDDTs) are the most important implementation agency in the CBARDP activities because they serve as a link between the communities and the various agencies including the Community Based Associations (CBAs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). This leads the project activities in each rural village area by assisting community groups to plan, implement monitor, and evaluate project activities. Other agencies involved at community level are:

ii) Rural Village Apex Development Association represents both the outer (wards) and the inner (village) communities in the implementation of the CBARD project in their area. The apex association is the umbrella association of all the various associations that exist in the village area. The Apex Development Association with the help of the CDDTs coordinate and support project activities in the village areas to ensure that poor and vulnerable groups (women and men, youths and adults) benefits from the activities. The Apex Association receive periodic training in areas such as group dynamics, advocacy, conflict management and resolution.

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