

# Third National Fadama Development Programme And Rural Development In Anambra State From 2010 To 2019

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**ABSTRACT-** *This work evaluated third national Fadama development programme and rural development in Anambra state: 2010 to 2019. The objectives of the study was to ascertain whether third National Fadama Programme has improved the living standard and income of rural farmers in Anambra state and to examine the level of involvement of participants in the design and implementation of the project in their communities. Data were collected from the files, records and mission statements of the state Fadama office. A well validated 24 item questionnaire was designed using Likert scale model. The data collected were analyzed using percentage tables and the chi-square statistics was used in testing the research hypotheses. The result showed that Fadama 111 programme has improved the standard of living and income of rural farmers benefiting and that greater proportion of the farmers confirmed that they were not involved in the design and implementation of Fadama projects in their communities. Based on the above findings, the researcher recommended that government should expand the programme beyond the current eight local governments and accommodate more beneficiaries to enable majority of rural. Also, Fadama 111 Policy makers should involve the participants in designing and implementation of projects in their communities.*

**KEYWORDS:** Rural Areas, Rural Farmers, Fadama 111, Community Driven Development, Fadama User Groups, Fadama Community Associations

## 1. INTRODUCTION

One major task facing the world, especially the third world countries is the problem of rural development. Since rural communities in Nigeria are part and parcel of the ever changing world and harbor about 70% of Nigeria population, efforts to make it more habitable and attractive have taken centre stage (Zasha, 2013). Governments, especially in Africa have adopted different rural development strategies aimed at improving the living standards of rural dwellers. In Nigeria, successive governments since independence in 1960 had deployed one strategy or another to improve the quality of life of rural populace with little results (Zasha, 2013).

Agbarevo and Okwoche (2014) argued that rural poverty and underdevelopment persisted because the authorities have failed to dismantle structures that have tended and discouraged rural dwellers from realizing their full potentials. According to Egbe (2014), 70% of Nigerians live in the rural areas and make their livelihood on agricultural activities. Rural communities in Nigeria are characterized with lack of basic amenities such as pipe borne water, hospitals, motorable roads, recreational facilities, use of crude method of farming and waste of agricultural produce due to lack of modern storage facilities. In an effort to uplift the living standard and encourage agricultural activities in rural areas, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development initiated Fadama programme, jointly funded by the Federal Government of Nigeria, World Bank, States, Local Governments and Communities. Fadama 111 programme was basically aimed at increasing the incomes of Fadama users through Fadama Associations and provide infrastructural facilities that support agriculture. Fadama projects are initiated by participating communities and supervised by the state and National Fadama office. Fadama is an Hausa word for irrigable land usually low-lying plains underlaid by shallow aquifers found along Nigeria's major rivers system (Osondu, Ijioma, Udah and Enerole, 2015).

The World Bank's Fadama 111 project was a follow-up to the Fadama 1 and 11 projects with major objectives to sustainably increase the income of Fadama user groups to reduce poverty in the rural areas, increase food supply and security in accordance with Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Fadama 111 commenced in Anambra state in 2009 and ended in 2014. However, the World Bank, having considered the successes recorded under Fadama 111 and the implications of withdrawing its support to the young programme decided to put in additional finance until 2019.

Since the inception of Fadama 111 in 2009 and Fadama 111 Additional financing in 2015 a total of US\$650 million was invested by World Bank, Federal and State Governments to enable Fadama users better their lives and agricultural businesses. The Programme included in its agenda the provision of farm inputs, credit facilities to Fadama land users as well as provision of access roads and other basic facilities that will make life in rural areas more meaningful and attractive. It was implemented in the 36 states of Fadama land including Federal capital territory while Fadama 111 Additional Financing, which started in 2015, focused on support to value chains of Rice, Sorghum, Cassava and Horticulture in six states of Kogi, Niger, Kano, Lagos, Anambra and Enugu (World Bank, 2015). For the duration of Fadama 111 and additional financing, Anambra state demonstrated seriousness following the regular release of its counterpart contribution of ₦112 million in 2016. In Anambra state, Fadama 111 programme covered eight Fadama local governments of Awka North, Orumba North, Orumba South, Ayamelum, Anambra East, Anambra West, Ihiala and Ogbaru. According to state coordinator, Egbue Chuks, a total of 5,253 farmers in Anambra state are

direct beneficiaries while 1.4 million are projected to indirectly benefit from the programme. Precisely, 4,000 of Fadama 111 additional financing were Rice farmers while the rest were into Cassava production.

## II. STATEMENT OF PROBLEMS

Third National Fadama Programme, unlike the first and second programmes, was designed to accommodate all the states in Nigeria including Federal Capital Territory. Anambra state grabbed the opportunity and embedded the programme into its rural development programme: Anambra Integrated Development Strategy (ANIDS), under the government of former Governor Peter Obi. The government of Willie Obiano in 2015 succeeded in enrolling the state among the few state to participate in Fadama 111 additional financing.

However, the primary motivation to this study is the visible and deplorable level of negligence, poverty and ignorance synonymous in all the rural communities in Anambra state even with the implementation of Fadama 111 programmes for over eight years. Anigbogu, Onwuteaka and Anyanwu (2014) believed that poverty seems to be concentrated mostly in the rural areas than in urban centers where government often concentrate development projects.

Rural communities in Anambra state are still battling to gain government attention on the areas of road construction leading to their farm lands, markets etc. for easy transportation of farm produce. Hospitals, where they existed, are poorly equipped with modern medical facilities and often under staffed. Acquisition and installation of modern storage facilities are covered in the policy statement of Fadama 111. Still, participants use crude means of storage and processing of agricultural outputs. This has, however, resulted to waste of agricultural products and consequently loss of incomes by farmers in the hands of middlemen. Also, the programme was designed to place the beneficiaries in the driver's seat. Agricultural storage facilities are sited in places far from agricultural lands, rural communities and roads are not properly graded.

## III. Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of this research is to ascertain the role of Third National Fadama development Programme on Rural Development in Anambra state between 2010 and 2019.

However, the specific objectives are:

1. To ascertain whether third national Fadama programme has improved the living standard and income of rural farmers in Anambra state.
2. To examine the level of involvement of participants in the design and implementation of the project in their communities.

## IV. Research Questions

The research is guided by the following research questions:

- i. To what extent has third national Fadama programme improved the standard of living and income of rural farmers in Anambra state?
- ii. What is the level of involvement of Fadama 111 participants in the planning and implementation of projects in their communities?

## V. Research Hypotheses

For the purpose of this study, two null hypotheses were formulated.

- 1:  $H_0$ : Third National Fadama programme has not improved the income of rural farmers in Anambra state.
- 2:  $H_0$ : Host communities and Fadama farmers do not participate in the third national Fadama planning and implementation of Fadama projects in Anambra state.

## VI. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

### A. Conceptualization of Rural Development

Rural development according to Antiques and Stamoulis (2007) has really changed as a result of evolving mechanism and goals of development. According to them, rural development is "understood as the sustained improvement of the population's standard of living or welfare". They further stressed that real development is a structural transformation of rural basic facilities by rapid agricultural growth. Rural development involves the provision of health facilities, decent housing, schools, improved or mechanized agriculture in the rural areas etc. These, they believed will significantly reduce rural poverty and uplift the standard of living of rural populace. They concluded by placing agriculture as the engine house of rural development in the third world countries.

Paul, Agba and Chukwurah (2014) see rural development as an action that helps the concerned people discover and develop their abilities to work in a concerted manner to tackle problems facing them as a group. Here, the rural people are helped to discover their potentials which can enable them solve their developmental challenges. They stressed the need for the formation of community development associations, where the rural people are to play vital role since they are at the receiving end of rural underdevelopment.

According to Zasha (2013) rural development is an effort directed towards total transformation of rural communities. These efforts, he argued, are to eradicate poverty and further reduce continuous migration, especially the youths from rural areas to urban centers where they can find better means of livelihood. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD, 2015),

defined rural development as an act of improving the welfare of rural populace. IFAD classified rural development into three important subheadings to include rural transformation, Inclusive rural development and structural transformation. World Bank (as cited in Olawuyi, 2004) defined rural development as “a strategy designed to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of people – the rural poor”.

#### B. Fadama 111 Programme

Fadama is an Hausa name for irrigable land. Third National Fadama programme otherwise known as Fadama 111 is a Federal Government programme initiated by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and co-sponsored by the World Bank. According to Echeme and Nwachukwu (as cited in Ugwumba and Okechukwu, 2014), maintained that Fadama 111 is anchored on community driven development strategy, which primarily is aimed at sustainably increasing the incomes of Fadama land users in order to reduce rural poverty, hunger and hasten the achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The programme was fashioned in such a way that the participating communities and users oversee the design and implementation of Fadama projects in their localities.

World Bank (2010) declared that Fadama 111 is fast becoming a household name and had engendered healthy competition among participating states. Fadama 111 is a follow-up to Fadama 11. It is more of agricultural diversification programme and targeted at small holders, who directly or indirectly benefit from exploitation of natural resources in their locality (Agbarevo and Okwoche, 2014). Under this programme, beneficiaries are free to collectively identify their preferable projects or investments activities. World Bank contribute 55.6%, Federal Government 5.1%, State Government 17.6% and Local Governments 8.9% (Agbarevo and Okwoche, 2014). So far, world Bank has provided a total of \$US650 million since the inception of the programme in 2008 to date. According to Agbarevo (as cited in Agbarevo and Okwoche, 2014), argued that Fadama 111 is demand driven in which the beneficiaries discover their problems, analyze and implement the course of action chosen by the group. They maintained that this paradigm shift would succeed where other programmes have failed to solve the problems of rural people.

Eze (2014) said that Fadama 111 programme is rural base with much emphasis on agriculture and rural development. Fadama 111 provides finance to rural farmers through Nigerian Cooperative and Rural Development Bank and as well as seek the support of private organizations on advisory and technical services, to sharpen the competence of farmers.

#### C. Third National Fadama Programme and Living Standard of Rural Farmers

Paul, Agba and Chukwurah (2014) asserted that after the independence of most third world countries that greater number of these countries neglected the development of rural areas and paid more attention to the development of urban centres. This has thus placed rural areas in Africa at the lowest level of development. Basic infrastructures are rarely sited in rural area while abandoned projects became a common scene in villages. These, he argued, are responsible for unattractiveness and inaccessibility of villages in Nigeria and Africa in general.

Musa (2010) in his article titled “Nigeria's Rural Economic Development Strategy: Community Driven Development Approach”, said that communities, who are the primary target of rural development need to be involved in any effort at all levels, to develop their areas. He described this approach as Bottom-up approach to rural development.

#### D. Participation by Host Communities and Farmers in Planning and Implementation of Rural Development Programmes

In recent times, scholars have blamed poor implementation or failure of previous rural development programmes on non-involvement of rural populace in the process of initiating, planning, implementation and evaluation of programme. A critical evaluation of past rural development programmes in Nigeria showed a top-down approach, usually led by government and its implementing institutions.

Mgbenka (2015) opined that active participation of stakeholders in rural development, especially the rural people is a necessary factor in determining the success of the programme. Their involvement in planning, identification of rural needs, implementation and evaluation of the programme should be encouraged while government agencies should serve as facilitators without imposing decisions on the rural people. Fadama 111 development programme was designed to take the Community Driven Development (CDD) approach with special emphasis on the critical roles of the beneficiaries (World Bank, 2010). Fadama User Groups and Fadama Community Associations are at the driver's seat; they oversee the design and implementation of projects in their community.

Inedu (2016) blamed the failure of rural development programmes in Nigeria on the policy makers because most of the previous programmes are externally designed without consulting the local people. This, he argued, rarely affect the lives of the rural people whom the programmes are meant to change. Lamar, Lawal, Babangida and Jehun (2014) see participation of rural people in rural development as an article of faith and a fundamental principle for the success of projects or programmes designed to improve the standard of living of the rural poor. The modes and level of participation should be left for the community to decide while government and donor agencies were as facilitators.

Oni (2015) argued that the best approach to rural development in Nigeria is the one that will ensure full participation of the rural people in the planning, execution and evaluation of programmes. They stressed that this approach is the only method that can ensure greater mobilization of both human and material resources to achieve stated objectives.

#### E. Empirical Review

Nwachukwu, Okafor, Okafor and Olabisi (2016) conducted study on Effects of Fadama 111 Users Groups (FUGs) Participation on Farmers' Income: A study of selected Crop Farmers in Agricultural Zones and Blocks of Anambra State. They sampled 323 respondents who were Fadama 111 crop farmers in Anambra state while using light regression to determine the factors that influence on participants in the third national Fadama development projects. Out of the 323 respondents, 124 (44%) were males while 181 (56%) were females. The result showed that socio-economic characteristics of Fadama 111 user groups (age, occupation, gender, education, marital status etc.) are a determinant factor for their participation in development programmes. Furthermore, the result revealed a significant improvement in the income of the farmers after their participation in the Fadama 111 programme. Also, there was increase of per capita income of Fadama user group after their participation in Fadama 111 programmes. In addition, their study further asserted the following constraints as limiting factors to crop farmer's participation in the Fadama 111 development projects to include: land tenure system, untimely disbursement of farm inputs, poor attitudes of extension service providers, high cost of production, lack of government commitment and lack of access roads to market for farm produce.

Okechukwu (2015) conducted a study on Government Spending on Poverty Alleviation through Cooperatives: A case study of Fadama 111 project crop farmer's cooperative societies in Imo state, Nigeria. The population of the study comprised all the Fadama user Group farmers within the 27 local government areas of the state. In the three agricultural zones of Owerri, Orlu and Okigwe, 1 local government randomly selected from each agricultural zones of Imo state. Frequency counts, means and percentages were used to analyze data on socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents while multiple regression models was however used to determine the influence of socioeconomic characteristics of the farmers on their income before joining the programme and after joining the programme. Analysis of the research findings indicated that 59.72% of the farmers were men while 40.28% of the farmers were women. This implied that men have majority participants in Fadama 111 in Imo state. Also, 97.22% of the respondents were married and average educational qualifications of the respondents have post primary education. The study further revealed that there are significant differences between mean income of the Fadama user group crop farmers before and after joining the project in Imo state. He enumerated problems militating against the full realization of Fadama 111 programme objectives which include irregular disbursement of fund, late release of government contribution, demand for users' cash contribution, nonpayment of beneficiary contribution, and misconception of the project by benefiting community and users, inadequate facilitators, inadequate logistics for extension staff, internal suspicion among communities and poor leadership style.

According to study conducted by Ike (2012) on the Impact of Fadama 111 Project on Poverty Alleviation in Delta state, Nigeria. A total of 202 Fadama 111 households were selected while the data generated as analyzed using mean, percentage, pie charts and bar charts. The result shows that the real income of Fadama 111 participating beneficiaries increased by about 36.6% from N62,480 to 85,391.42 as a result of their involvement in Fadama 111 projects. Generally, the result asserted that the introduction of Fadama 111 programme in Delta state has significantly reduced poverty among fadama 111 user groups. He concluded by advocating for rural education since it is key to poverty reduction in rural areas in delta state.

Osondu, Ijioma, Udah and Omerole (2015) carried out a similar study conducted by Ike (2012) in delta state. Their study was on Impact of National Fadama 111 Development Project in Alleviating poverty of food crop farmers in Abia state Nigeria. The objective of the study was to determine and compare poverty level among fadama 111 and non Fadama 111 participating food crop farmers and determine effect of Fadama 111 programme on beneficiaries' farm income. They used random sampling technique to determine the sample size of 360 respondents, comprising 180 Fadama beneficiaries and 180 non beneficiaries from the three agricultural zone in Abia state. The result of the study showed that the incidence of poverty for Fadama 111 farmers was lower (0.481) as against the non Fadama 111 farmers (0.522). These figures showed that Fadama 111 participants are more likely to live above poverty line than non Fadama 111 participants in Abia state. The study, however, observed some problems constraining full participation of food crop farmers in Fadama 111 project in Abia state as follows: late arrival of farm inputs, inadequate land for farming, inadequate credit facility, administrative bottlenecks in releasing fund and nonpayment of state counterpart funds.

In a study conducted by Ajayi and Nwalieji (2010) on impact of the Anambra state Fadama project phase 1 on the socio life of the rural farmers. The objectives of the study were to determine the vegetable production preference of growers; assess the impact of the project on the vegetable production and socioeconomic life of rural farmers; identify the problems being faced by the vegetable farmers and determine the socioeconomic aspiration of the farmers. The study sampled 160 vegetables growers comprising 80 project participants and 80 non participant farmers while using interview, mean score, percentages, factor analysis, t-test and chi-square statistics. The result revealed that Telfaria and Okro were the most preferred among vegetable production during dry and wet seasons due to their high income generating capacity and high demand in the market. Secondly, socioeconomic aspirations of the farmers have moved from personal improvement to farm improvement. Thirdly, the projects have significantly improved the socioeconomic life of the growers. Finally result indicated that the problems such as post-harvest, logistics and unattractive incentives have really slowed down the implementation of the programme objectives in Anambra state.

## VII. MATERIAL AND METHOD

Survey design was used to execute this study. Study was carried out in Anambra state. Anambra state has twenty one (21) local governments. Data used in this study came from both primary and secondary sources. Under primary source, questionnaire was developed to obtain information from rural dwellers, who are the direct beneficiaries of fadama 111 programmes in Anambra state. Also, the secondary data were collected from the official documents of the Fadama state office, text books, journals, government publications, internet, newspapers, and seminars. Population of the study consists of 3,152

Fadama 111 participants of the six selected local governments in Anambra state. These local governments include Orumba North, Orumba South, Awka North, Ayamelum, Anambra East and Anambra West.

A multistage sampling procedure was used to select respondents. More so, 22 staff of Fadama state office, which is the staff strength of the programme in Anambra state, was added for the purpose of getting their opinion on general implementation of Fadama 111 programmes in Anambra state. Finally, the total sample size for the study was therefore 355 sample sizes.

RESULTS

Table 4: Whether Third National Fadama Programme has improved the Standard of Living and Income of Rural Farmers in Anambra state.

Options	Responses	Percentage%
S.A	102	29.3%
A	93	26.7%
U	15	4.3%
D	72	20.7%
S.D	66	19%
Total	348	100%

Field

Source:  
Study, 2021

From the above table, it is clear that 29.3% and 26.7% of the respondents strongly agreed and agreed respectively that fadama 111 programme has really improved the standard of living of rural farmers in Anambra state. Also, 15 representing 4.3% were undecided. However, 72(20.7%) and 66(19%) disagreed and strongly disagreed respectively that Fadama 111 has improved the standard of living of rural farmers in Anambra state. The implication of the above result indicates that Fadama 111 has positively improved the economic status of rural farmers who are participants in Fadama 111 additional financing.

Table 5: To examine the level of involvement of participants in the design and implementation of Fadama project in their communities.

Options	Responses	Percentage%
S.A	69	19.8%
A	70	20.1%
U	57	16.4%
D	71	20.4%
S.D	81	23.3%
Total	348	100%

Field

Source:  
Survey, 2021

The table above shows that 69(19.8%) and 70(20.1%) of the respondents of the respondents strongly agreed and agree respectively that they are part of project planning and implementation in their communities. Then 57 of the respondents representing 16.4% respondents were undecided while 71 of the respondents with 20.4% and 81 representing 23.3% of the respondents were of the view that they have control over project planning and implementation in their communities by ticking disagree and strongly disagree ,respectively. This implies that projects sited in Fadama communities in Anambra state are designed and executed without actually involving the people who are the direct beneficiaries of those projects. This contravenes the objectives of Fadama 111 which supports demand driven execution of projects in communities.

#### Test of Hypotheses One

##### Decision Rule

Reject  $H_0$  (Null) hypothesis if calculated  $X^2$  is greater than tabulated  $X^2$ ; and accept  $H_1$  (Alternative) hypothesis.

Level of freedom adopted or chosen = 0.05

Degree of freedom is:

$n-1$

$1-5 = 4$

Calculated  $X^2 = 5.418$ , Table  $X^2 = 9.49$ , Degree of freedom =  $(5-1) = 4$ ,

Significance level = 0.05

Result of Hypothesis one showed that calculated chi-square ( $X^2$ ) is 66.052. The value is clearly greater than the table chi-square ( $X^2$ ) of 9.49 at 0.05% significance level and a degree of freedom of 4. We therefore reject the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) which states that Third national Fadama programme has not improved the standard of living and income of rural Fadama 111 farmers in Anambra state and accept the alternate hypothesis ( $H_1$ ): Third national Fadama programme has improved the standard of living and income of rural Fadama 111 farmers in Anambra state.

#### Test of Hypotheses Two

Calculated  $X^2 = 4.184$ , Table  $X^2 = 9.49$ , Degree of Freedom =  $(5-1) = 4$ ,

Significance level = 0.05

Result of Hypothesis one showed that calculated chi-square ( $X^2$ ) is 4.184. The value is clearly less than the table chi-square ( $X^2$ ) of 9.49 at 0.05% significance level and a degree of freedom of 4. We therefore reject the alternative hypothesis ( $H_1$ ) which states that Host communities and farmers participate in the third national planning and implementation of Fadama projects in Anambra state and accept the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ): Host communities and farmers do not participate in the third national Fadama planning and implementation of Fadama projects in Anambra state.

### VIII. DISCUSSION

Analysis of hypothesis one indicated that Fadama 111 has significantly improved the standard of living and income of rural Fadama participants, who are directly the beneficiaries of fadama 111 programme. This is supported by the study conducted by Nwachukwu, Okafor, Okafor and Olabisi (2016) on effects of fadama 111 user groups participation on farmers' incomes. Their result found out that per capita income of the fadama rural farmers significantly increased after their participation in fadama 111 programme. This has enabled them to take care of themselves and their households. Also, study conducted by Okechukwu (2015) in Imo state; Ike (2012) in Delta state, and Osundu, Jjioma, Udah and Emerole (2015) in Delta state affirmed that rural farmers participation in Fadama 111 programme has greatly improved their income level as well as uplift their standard of living.

Also, analysis of hypothesis two revealed that the level of involvement of the people who are the beneficiaries of Fadama 111 programme in the conception and implementation of Fadama projects in Anambra state is very low. This implies that these projects did not actually incorporate Community Driven Development (CDD) approach as contained in its implementation manual volume. Inendu (2016) argued that these projects rarely affect the lives of the rural people (farmers) whom the programme is meant to change. This equally corroborated the works of Mgbenka (2015) and Musa (2010), who argued that involving rural people during project initiation and implementation give them the courage to speak up when things go wrong.

### IX. CONCLUSION

The researcher concluded that Fadama 111 has improved the standard of living and income of participants. This has however enabled them to take good care of their family members and relatives. Also, the programme coordinators in Anambra state has systematically sidelined the beneficiaries from taking part in decision making on projects sited in their communities. This has resulted to nonchalant attitude on the part of the beneficiaries. This act is against the community driven development approach embedded in Fadama 111, which put the participants in-charge of the implementation while government bodies acts as facilitators; providing the needed technical and logistic support.

### X. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings above, the following recommendations are made:

1. Since the participation of rural farmers in Fadama 111 programme has improved their standard of living and income, government should expand the programme beyond the eight local governments and accommodate more beneficiaries to enable majority of rural farmers in Anambra States benefit from the programme.
2. Fadama 111 Policy makers should involve the participants in designing and implementation of projects in their communities since this will help reduce nonchalant attitude of rural dwellers and vandalism of rural Fadama projects.

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