
AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN MAKURDI,
BENUE STATE, NIGERIA

Asamu Festus Femi¹, Oloni, Elizabeth Funlayo² & Onojowho Akpeuwe Harvest

¹Department of Sociology, Landmark University, Nigeria.

²Department of Economics Landmark University, Nigeria.

Email: olonielizabeth@yahoo.com

Abstract: Agriculture from the onset has been the main source of Nigeria economy due to its fertile land as over 80% of its populace are involved in this sector. Due to the mismanagement of fund, a vast majority of people engages in subsistence agriculture without adequate capital to expand and increase production. The lack of storage and agro industries to processed as well as dilapidated road network causes food loss resulting to poor economy development and high rate of poverty. The study therefore examines the food security and its implication on national development in Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria. The researcher adopted the structural change theory. The first theory focused on the change in the method of production to boost economy development. Data was collected from a total of 100 respondents on their opinion using the primary source, only 92 were returned back. The survey instrument used was open and closed questionnaire. The sampling technique used was the stratified sample and simple random sample. The population was divided into strata based on age group, sex and income. A sample is then selected from the stratum by picking every tenth Number in random series. The study shows that 34 (36.96%) of the respondents between the age of (21-30) are youth who largely involved in food production. 47(51.09%) are females but with little motivation due to lack of mechanized tools and are self-supportive actively participate in feeding the populations. From the findings, it shows that these set of people are not encouraged due to poor funding of Agricultural sector. This results to underdevelopment in Makurdi. It shows that mechanized farming increases production, boost economy development by generating fund; it reduces the rate of food importation to the country. Finally, finding shows that the people are willing to adopt innovative technology to effect a change in the society on food production. However, the following suggestions were made by the respondents that government should provide farmers with mechanized tools at subsidized price to increase productivity. Agro industries should be provided to increase federal funds, to reduce food waste, food stability, improve nutritional content of food, and reduce food price.

Keywords: Agriculture, Food, Poverty, Food Security, Development, Economy Development.

Reference to this paper should be made as follows: Asamu Festus Femi, et al. (2016), Agriculture, Food Security and National Development in Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria. *J. of Social Sciences and Public Policy*, Vol. 8, Number 1, Pp. 10 – 22.

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture has been the backbone of Nigeria Economy from the onset. Nigeria, with a population of over 160million people blessed in untapped resources is considered an Agrarian nation because over 70% of her populace engages in agricultural production (Okunneye, 2002). Its performance in the development process in the 1960s was very commendable as the sector accounted for well over 80% of the export earnings and about 50% of government revenue (Lawal and Ette, 2006). Before the discovery of oil, more than many Nigerians engage in agricultural food production which provided a source of livelihood to more than 90% of the population. Agriculture was the backbone of the economy and the main source of income. The discovery of oil wiped off agricultural investments, due to poor administrative system in Nigeria and mismanagements of public funds; thus resulting to agricultural stagnation and under developments. These became a matter of concern to the nation as Nigeria who was formerly a net exporter of food to other continent in the 1950s and 1960s; now became the largest importers of food produce from other country as things changed dramatically from 1970s following the discovery of oil. These result to official neglect of the agricultural sector. (Essiet, 2012). However, over 70% of Nigerian farmers engage in subsistence agriculture with inadequate resources at their disposal to harvest, expand their farm and store their farm produce, so that the agro allied processing industries could access them yearly in processing food commodities. The lack of social amenities to convey goods such as accessible road network, preservation techniques of products, storage and processing facilities as well as adequate market information, has led to the wastage of large quantities of their produce. According to the Nigeria Food Science and Technology report (NIFST), about 10million tons of food are been lost yearly due to lack of proper management (NIFST, 2011). Alert agrees to this assertion that global food losses are due to inadequate management (Alert, 2009).

However, Government and other interested bodies have taken steps to improve the nutritional content of food thus investing in agricultural sector. Due to inadequate calories and protein in food diet, the world health statistics states that Nigeria has one of the highest yearly records of death rates (WHO 2004). However, farmers and stakeholders in the food supply line therefore need to rise with adequate resources in limiting food loss using storage facilities and appropriate processing technologies. These will guarantee food security, structural development and will address the social problems that have disorganized the social system like poverty, malnutrition, unemployment, prostitution, thuggery etc; with efforts made by both the national and international bodies as well as NGO's to tackle these problems of food security at hand.. Nigeria still depends on food importation. It is on this context that the study examines the problems of Food security and its impact on national development, using Markurdi in Benin State, Nigeria as the research setting.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

(1.) What is the importance of agricultural farm mechanized tools to increase production?

- (2.) How do food security in agricultural contribute to a nation's economy development?
- (3.) What are the roles of these food industries in reducing food importation?
- (4.) How do we address malnutrition and food access by members of the society?

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

The central aim of the study is to attain food security and national development. To achieve this aim, the objectives are:

- (1.) To show why agricultural mechanized tools is needed to increase agricultural food production.
- (2.) To examines how food security in agriculture contribute to national economy development
- (3.) To examines how the food industries reducing food import in a Nigeria.
- (4.) To ascertain the association between malnutrition and food access by members in a society.

CONCEPT OF FOOD SECURITY AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Food security was defined as a constant access to enough food by people to for active and industrious life (Agbo, 2002). Food contains vitamins and minerals needed by the body to avoid slow growth by increasing minerals and vitamins for the body found in fruits and vegetables. Vegetables and fruit are rich source of folic Acid, iron, vitamins and calcium. These are vitals for the substance of health and avoid sickness (Sheela et al (2004); Nnamani et al (2007)). Food provides energy for voluntary and in voluntary work, therefore one of the problems that man have is the certainty of having enough food to eat. Access to good quality food has being men Endeavour from the earliest day of human existence. Agricultural organization is one of the food agencies that address issues of sustainability, nutrition of which all human have the right to food.

The International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), Recognize *"the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, freedom from hunger including adequate food... and the continuous improvement of living conditions.*(Human Right Education Associate Organization (201:145). This body takes care of the essential right of man. The food making system creates employment for the people and also responsible for the economic development of any nations state by uplifting the standard of people and social amenities. Agriculture holds a lot for our economy development and plays a major important role in provision of food, raw materials for industries, employment opportunities and capital formation; by bringing drastic changes in our social system. Michael et al (2003) view economy development as a many sided process involving the method of the economy. These changes involve change in the method of production via improved technology to transform or develop other institutions and structure.

A reporter, Ayado observes that underdevelopment is as a result of industries neglected by the government in Nigeria (Leadership Newspaper, Saturday 22 March, 2012). A country with low industries is not developed. A developed country is characterized by high industrialization for economic development. Government in the core countries took it as a means of change to develop the structures and have ushered them to development. This has led to the development of those nations like Britain, America, France, and Korea. Nigeria example Benue State has high number of industries neglected. This would have reduced food waste and generate huge revenue via taxation, as a necessary charges enforced by government for various real functions of the State for advancement and solve the problem of unemployment; is abandoned by the government for quick wealth, thus breeding hardship and poverty to the nation and social disarray in the system. Tax is a vital factor for change (Olaoye, 2008). This undeveloped nature has led to high level of high crime rate, malnutrition, prostitution, with HIV reducing the number of people in food production due to unemployment. This has affected the educational institution producing half baked graduate without reference to practical industrial knowledge and further agricultural stagnation.

As the adage says 'a hungry man is an angry man. An angry man is a danger to his neighbourhood and in fact displeasure to himself. A nation with unstable food will have a weak internal security as it will breed nothing but a population of people full of anger awaiting explosion. Governments' failures to develop and maintain the processing industries result to economic stagnation the functioning ones are grossly mismanaged. A nation is food secured if it's improved the quality of life and standard of living of the people (NPC, 2004); in affordable foods nutritionally by addition of some vital minerals and vitamins required by the body. This is for good building. Food security can be achieved with a plan on how to improve malnutrition by reducing the rate of food deprivation among people in food access.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The structural change Model is one of the classic theories of economic development. This school of thought saw the political, economic etc. institutions as a means of eradicating poverty, provide more diversified employment opportunities and reduce income inequalities. They saw Agricultural improvement as a key for economy development to supply sufficient food and freedom from hunger and employment opportunities. Structural change theory focuses on the mechanism by which underdeveloped countries transform their nation from traditional subsistence agriculture to a more modern, urbanized and industrially diverse manufacturing and service economy (Michael et al, 2011). Development in Nigeria is possible change in the society starting from the agricultural sector by the leaders. To them, for development to be possible it depends on Agriculture. According to Linus (2009) active leadership will advance development cost in general. This theory saw the need of modern leadership to move the nation from traditional agriculture to a modern and commercialized method of production. When this is done, there would be an increase in agricultural production capable of feeding the

growing population in the nation, raw materials for manufacturing industries, increase employment opportunities, raise the standard of living of the people, increased the wealth of individuals and nations for further investment. This will guarantee economy self-determinism and reduce excessive dependence on other country for food supply. Thus, reducing or eliminating the level of malnutrition in the society. Hence, making it easy for government to promote people's safety and health in promoting the general welfare of the citizens. These will also increase Nigeria national output of goods and service as well as to generate revenue to fund other social institution in the country. For Change to occur in Nigeria, a shift from traditional subsistence farming to a mechanize practice is needed for transformation of production and changes in the composition of consumer demand, international trade in global market and resource use as well as changes in socioeconomic factors. Development in Nigeria starts from a shift away from small-scale agriculture to large-scale production for industrial production, with the steady accumulation of physical and human capital. These capitals are invested back in the society to develop other structures and institution to address social problems such as high crime rate, prostitution and high rate of HIV due to unemployment for economic gain or reasons. Lewis's contributed to these model saw underdeveloped economy in a nation due to stagnant agriculture. He saw movement from the traditional sector will lead to growth of output and employment in the modern sector. These result to higher return in capital, and is reinvested. This process according to Lewis becomes self-sustaining leading to economy development in a nation. In addition, Chenery's saw the structural change and patterns of development necessary for change in the economy structure of a country. A shift from traditional agriculture to modern one result to industrial production from capital gotten, change in consumer demands on food. This leads to development as people migrate from the rural to the urban area decline in search for jobs.

However, this school only emphasized on the economy development of all sectors and not the function of this in the society. This theory is however important on food security and national development in developing the less developed or poor countries of the world, as Nigeria is seen as one of the third world country with large percentage of its population in abject poverty. Its sees development in Nigeria States possible due to its fertile land starting from the Agricultural sector to develop and change the mode of production in the economy institution in eradicating poverty among Nigeria State mostly, Benue State via willing and active leaders are willing to bear the cost of change. Man is seen as agent of change who influences the acceptance in promoting change through his strategic approach, knowledge of the change itself, skills and method of persuasion for this change. Agricultural production done with modern tools not only prevent food loss but also increases food production on a macro level for commercial purpose and micro level to feed its resident in the nation via food production to Nourished and improve individual wellbeing of the people. This surplus food via improved technology will generate capital for individuals involved as well as the nation in developing the social structures. Agro allied industries will transform Surplus food leading

to high level of Industries either by Private or Government to processed food in improving the quality of food, maintain a stable food supply even in seasonal period, create employment opportunities and also generate revenue for individuals and the Nation for further advancement. These will make food price affordable by members of the community in nourishing human life, also increase the level of food export to other nation who has low capacity to produce food. For Nigeria is a fertile country blessed which made it at an advantage over other nations. These will as well improve and increase our market ability of food produces sold within and outside the nation to meet the market expected standard and satisfactory requirement of consumers. A shift from crude method of production to merchandised Agriculture will also reduce death rate and malnutrition level among Nigerians in food consumption thus improving the social well being of human access to good quality meal at an affordable price no matter the location of an individual in a Nation. Capital gotten from the economy institution will be invested to other social institution for smooth running of the society. However, economy development is possible when will increase food production using a mechanized farming tools to feed the large population and make our nation secured even in years to come and also generate capital for development via an active leadership in Nigeria. Benue state the nation is blessed in manpower ready to explore its vast agricultural resources by the youths, singles and female as they largely dominate the society and wealth as it produces surplus food to feed Nations

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

In this study, survey design was adopted; it involved the collection of information from a sample of individuals through their responses to questions about themselves and other (Schutt, et al, 2004). Both qualitative and quantitative techniques were employed in ensure proper validity and reliability.

THE STUDY AREA

The study was carried out in Makurdi, the capital of Benue State. This is because it is a food producing state and has its slogan as the "food basket of the nation". Most farmers always come to this area to market their goods. Self-administered questionnaires were distributed to selected populations. Data was collected from four major parts of Makurdi, which fully represent the order parts of Makurdi, which are: north bank area, wurukum area, Wadata area and Modern market area because; of largeness of the population in Makurdi thus making it difficult for the researcher to use. Also, they are farmers in these four areas who farm here, come from rural area to trade and sell their farm produces, those farmers who come to sell from other state and use both non farmers to know their feeling toward this problem.

SAMPLING TECHNIQUES AND SAMPLING POPULATION

The researcher made used of the multistage sampling. The first is the purpose sampling. This was used to select farmers from four markets in Makurdi who came to sell their

farming products. Also farmers from rural areas in Makudi where equally purposely chosen as target respondents. Secondly the stratified sampling were used to derived the farmers into structure based on age group, sex, income and marital status, Finally, a sample is then selected from the stratum using the simple random sampling in order to have equal chance of representation. In all a sample size of 92 farmers were used for the study. The researcher got its sample size by divide the 920 by 10% of the total population.

Farmer Areas	Total Population	Sample Population
North Bank areas	330	33
Wurukuu areas	240	24
Wadera area	260	26
Modern market area	90	9
Total	920	92

Researcher's Survey, 2014

INSTRUMENT OF DATA COLLECTION

Data was collected using the survey method or instruments; the questionnaires, which are two types; a section consists of information relating to the social-demographic characteristics of the respondents while section B contains the perception of the respondents on food security and national development.

Personal Data of the Respondents

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents According to their Socio Economic Characteristics (n=92)

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
Below 20	18	19.56
21-30	34	36.96
31-40	19	20.65
41-50	10	10.87
51 and above	11	11.96
Sex		
Male	45	48.91
Female	47	51.09
Marital status		
Single	49	53.26
Married	39	42.40
Divorce	2	2.17
Widow	2	2.17
Tribes		
Tiv	18	19.57
Idoma	30	32.61
Itilo	6	6.52
Others	38	41.30
Number of children		

Below 2	23	25
3-4	18	19.57
5-6	5	5.43
7 and above	9	9.78
None	37	40.22
Educational attainment		
No schooling	3	3.26
Primary	6	6.52
Secondary school	31	33.70
Tertiary institution	52	56.52

Source: Author's Field Survey 2014.

The table 1 indicates that 34 (36.96%) of the respondents between the ages of (21-30) are youth in their active years and are more in the labour field, more energetic and industrious with little of their contribution in developing the farming in the town. 19(20.65%) of the respondents between the age (31-40) engaged in small scale enterprise and self-supporting in order to achieve their objectives. 10(10.87%) of the respondents are less active and are majorly involved in feeding their families and 11(11.96%) of the respondent are the aged who contributes little in food production and as well dependant. This show only few youth is encouraged in agriculture. This slows down the level of socio-economic development of the area of study. The distribution of respondents oh sex indicates that 45 (48.91%) were males the ownership of land while 47(51.09%) were female. It shows that female largely dominate the labour field in agricultural production and food production for the sustenance of the society than the males. The tabulated data on marital status shows that 39 (42.40%) of the respondents were married who are self supporting as they put in effort in farming to attain income and provide for members of their families and their communities. 2(2.17%) are divorced and 2(2.17%) were widows who involved in farming to get good living and wage to meet their needs while 49(53.26%) of the respondents are single. This implies that singles who are unmarried have less responsibility attached to them and are productive in work. They put in more effort in farming to develop the nation.

Furthermore, the tribes of the respondents living in Makurdi, Benue State were measured 38 (41.30%) covers the large population of non-Benue speaking tribes like the Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba, Ibibio, and Urohobo who come to market their farm products and also farming in Makurdi: 6 (6.52%) belong to the Itilo speaking tribe, 30 (32.61%) are Idoma and Tiv people constitute 18(19.57%). The table shows that most of the respondents living in Makurdi, Benue State are non indigenes who reside there for farming in their fertile land of the respondent Educational attainment shows that 3 (3.26%) have no schooling education; 6(6.52%) attain the primary school level; 31(33.70%) stops at the secondary school; 52(56.22%) constitutes those who are able to get up to the tertiary institutions. It shows that the level of literacy in Makurdi is higher than illiterate rate. This shows that graduates are majorly involved in agricultural production as they are less employed by the Benue State Government and Nigeria Government.

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents View on Lack of Storage Facilities

VARIABLE	FREQUENCIES	PERCENTAGE (%)
YES	89	96.74
NO	3	3.26
TOTAL	92	100.00%

Source: Author's Field Survey 2014.

The large percentage (96.74%) of respondents opinion shows that the inefficiency in storage of food chain is high this results to insufficient food to sustain its residence and as well for export to generate income for further economic development and to preserve food when in need. This was due to large number of the farmer that practice subsistence farming.

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents View on Dilapidated Road Network

VARIABLES	FREQUENCIES	PERCENTAGE %
YES	84	91.30
NO	8	8.70
TOTAL	92	100.00%

Source: Author's Field Survey 2014.

Table 3 shows that 84 (91.30%) of the road network in Makurdi, are very bad to convey goods from the farm to the market for sale, hence resulting to food waste. Only 8 (8.70%) of the respondents shows that bad road does not cause food waste.

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents' Perception on Subsistence Agriculture

VARIABLES	FRQUENCIES	PERCENTAGE %
YES	79	85.87
NO	13	14.13
TOTAL	92	100.00%

Source: Author's Field Survey 2014.

In table 4, 79(85.87%) respondents agreed that insufficient food in a nation is as a result of crude farming tools which resulted into low productivity. Farmers interviewed believed that provision of modern farming implements will increase their productivity. Those farmers that were in cooperative said they produce in commercial scale. When the respondents were interviewed, they are willing to embrace the used of mechanized tools.

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents on the used of Mechanized Tools

VARIABLES	FRQUENCIES	PERCENTAGE %
YES	85	92.39
NO	7	7.61
TOTAL	92	100.00%

Source: Author's Field Survey 2014.

The table 5 above shows that 85 (92.39%) of the respondents are of the view that mechanized tools will increased their production, when these tools are made available to farmers there were be surplus food in excess transferred to agro-allied industries for processing into manufactured goods for national consumption or exportation.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The study shows that majority of the population are youths who are agile effective with little of their effort contributing to farming production. Female dominate mainly in the society than male who are involved in subsistence farming as they support and actively participate in nation building in their minor effort. Most of these food producers are unmarried with no individual family responsibilities attached to them. They put in little effort in farming due to their level of poverty end poor standard of living. 52(56.52%)of the respondent are literates who involved in food production and not motivated due to inadequate modern equipment's In all, the study confirms that food shortage is due to crude method of farming, harvesting facilities inadequate processing, inadequate storage as well as dilapidated road network in food distribution to other regions for easy access. Farmers in these area practice agriculture using the traditional knowledge inherited from their fore fathers to cultivate, store and to preserve food. These conditions affect the agricultural foods securities and national development. In conclusion, the research shows that over 80% of the populations who engaged in subsistence agriculture are willing to participate actively in developing the state, ready to adopt innovative technology relevant to them to increase production in order to bring in positive changes leading to development in all sectors of the economy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) The government should provide the farmers with mechanized tools, pesticide, and fertilizer on subsidized price with training to teach the farmers on how to use these tools effectively. This will increase food production in Makudi, Benue State.
- (2) Agro industries should be provided to increase federal funds, to reduce food waste and reduce food price because the more the industries the greater the fund generated. Storage facilities should also be upgraded as this will increase the shelf life of our local produces such as tomatoes, pepper, orange etc. processed to improve the quality of food consumed.
- (3) Also, more non-governmental bodies should be encouraged to invest in agriculture so that government can generate more funds via taxation, export and land tenure system. These will foster development in Benue State. Private sectors should also be set up to facilitate commercial production, processing in other to market food commodities and style of branding to compete with the global market.
- (4) Government should provide more agricultural extension agencies in all the areas that can go into the interior area to enlighten the farmers on recent technology to increase food productions. Government should come to farmer's aid by, providing a well secured market free from threat, ban the importation of agricultural products,

accessible roads to enable farmers market their produce; portable water and electricity to preserve food so as to avoid food wastage.

REFERENCES

- Afolabi, B. (2013; March 16). Food Preservation Turns Cash Cow. *"The Nation Newspaper"* Retrieved from <http://www.thenationonlineng.net/new/food-preservation-turns-cash-cow/> on 15-09-2013.
- Agbo, O. (2002), *"The Political Economic of Food Security in Nigeria"* (unpublished) M.Sc. Thesis Department of Political Science, Benue State University Makurdi.
- Human Right Education Associates Organization HREA. Org, (2014). *"Food and Water"* on http://www.hrea.org/index.php?base_id=145 Retrieved on 07-05-2014
- Essiet, D. (2012, January 20) Cited Lemo, T. Why Nigeria is not developed. *"The Nation"* Retrieved from www.thenationonlineng.net on 15-03-014.
- Jerome, A. (May, 2012). Nigeria's Food Security Programs: Implications for MDG's Goal of Extreme Hunger Eradication. *"International Journal of Business and Social Science"*, Vol. 3, No: 9; pp244-249.
- Linus, N. (2009). *"Politics of Development and Underdevelopment"* 2nd Edition; published by John-Jacob's classic, Enugu, Nigeria Leadership Newspaper, 2012
- Matleena, K. (2006). *"Industrial Development and Economic Growth: Implications for Poverty Reduction and Income Inequality"* pp 314 – 315, Retrieved on 03-04-2014.
- Michael, T. Stephen C. smith. (2003). *"Economic Development"*. Eighth Edition, Pearson.
- Michael, T. Stephen C. smith. (2011). *"Economic Development"*. Eleventh Edition, Addison-Wesley. Pearson.
- National Population Commission NPC Nigeria (2004): *"National Policy on Population for Sustainable Development. Abuja, Nigeria"*: National Population Commission.
- Nigeria Food Science and Technology NIFST (2011). *"Value Addition to Nigerian Food Raw Materials: A Panacea for National Food Security and Poverty Reduction"*. Communiqué of the Nigerian Institute of Food Science and Technology, 35th General Meeting and Scientific Conference, Makurdi, Benue State, 10th – 14th October, 2011. Nigeria. Essays in Honor of David Iornongo Ker; The Food Basket Myth Aboki Publisher, Makurdi.
- Olaoye, C. (2008): *"Concepts of Taxation Nigeria"*. Clement Publishing, Ijagbo/Ofa, Kwara State.

Asamu Festus Femi, et al.

- Onwordi, C. Ogungbade, A. Wusu, A. (2009). The Proximate and Mineral Composition of Three Leafy Vegetables Commonly Consumed in Lagos Nigeria. *"African Journals of Pure and Applied Chemistry"*. Vol. 3(6):102-107
- Osigbesan, S. (2013, Saturday, August 3). Tapping Local Technologies for Food Security. *"The Leadership Newspaper"* Retrieved from <http://leadership.ng:8080/news/030813/tapping-local-technologies-food-security-on-28-11-2013>.
- Roseta, C. et al (2012). Effect of Agricultural and Industrial Wastes on the Physicochemical Properties of a Sandy Clay Loam Soil. *"International Journal of Applied Agricultural Research"*: Volume7, No: 3, Pp 187-196; December 2012.
- Sheela, K. Kumal, N. Lakshmi, D. Geeta, M. Roopa, P. (2004): Proximate Analysis of Underutilized Green Leafy Vegetable. *"African Journals of Food Science"*, Volume 6, Number 11, pp 302-307; 15 June 2013.
- Ufford, F. (2006) Cited in Ukase, P. (2007), *"Nigeria Food Security System and Poverty Reduction Policies: Options and Strategies for Sectoral Reforms in the 21st Century"*. The Nigerian Economy Challenges & Directions for Growth in the next 25 Years, P. (Ed) in Ogiji.
- Ukase, P. (2007), *"Nigeria's Food Security System and Poverty Reduction Policies: Options and Strategies for Sectoral Reforms in the 21st Century"*. The Nigerian Economy Challenges & Directions for Growth in the next 25years, P. (Ed) in Ogiji.
- United State Department of Agriculture USDA: Economic Research Service (June 2009). Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food. *"Community Food Coalition Food Security Org"*. Retrieved 27-04-2014.
- Wikipedia Free Encyclopedia (2010). *"Food Processing"*. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Food_processing on: 04-08-2013.
- Wikipedia, Free Encyclopedia (2010). *"Nigeria vision 2020"*. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigeria_Vision_2020 on: 04-08-2013.
- Wintour, P. (2008). Brown urges Britons to Cut Food Waste. *"The Guardian (London)"*, Retrieved from <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/jul/07/food.waste> on: 04-08-2013.
- World Bank (2004a) Cited in El. Rufia, .N. (2011, August 19). Nigeria: Rich Country, Poor people. *"This Day Live"* Retrieved from www.thisdaylive.com/articles/Nigeria-rich-country-poor-people/96703/ on 5-03-2014.
- World Bank (2004a). *"World Development Indicators 2004. CD-ROM"*.
- World health report(2004): *"changing history"* Geneva

World Health Organization W.H.O (2006). *"Multicenter Growth Reference WHO Child Growth Standard: Height for Age, Weight for Age, Weight for Height and Body Mass Index for Age: Method and Development Geneva: World Health Organization"*.