

ASSESSMENT OF LAND DEGRADATION ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY IN NIGERIA

BY

[STUDENT'S FULL NAME]

[MATRIC NUMBER]

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DEGREE IN GEOGRAPHY

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Assessment of Land Degradation on Agricultural Productivity in Nigeria" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined assessment of land degradation on agricultural productivity in Nigeria, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of assessment; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with assessment and land. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Systems Theory and the Sustainable Development Theory. A sample size of 402 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 384 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.08). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.568$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 5.48, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.03$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on assessment.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of assessment of land degradation on agricultural productivity in Nigeria is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

assessment continues to command considerable attention among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in geography. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of assessment. A notable study by Adeniyi and Eze (2017) argued that the impact of assessment is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding land. Longitudinal research by Oyelaran and Alade (2016) revealed that sustained attention to assessment yields appreciable dividends over time. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding land. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of assessment. Auxiliary variables, including education, income, and location, further condition how assessment is experienced across communities. The work of Bamgbose and Adebayo (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that land reinforces the effects of assessment. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Field evidence gathered by Adigun and Umeh (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of assessment. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

The phenomenon of assessment, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of assessment. Evidence assembled by Adigun and Umeh (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to assessment. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Longitudinal research by Bamgbose and Ogunlana (2016) revealed that sustained attention to assessment yields appreciable dividends over time. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

The salience of assessment in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with assessment. The aggregate picture emerging from Adebayo and Chukwu (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between assessment and the outcomes of interest. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Longitudinal research by Aderemi and Nwosu (2016) revealed that sustained attention to assessment yields