

ASSESSMENT OF THE CASSAVA VALUE CHAIN EFFICIENCY IN NIGERIA

BY

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[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Assessment of the Cassava Value Chain Efficiency 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 the cassava value chain efficiency 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 cassava. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Production Theory and the Diffusion of Innovation Theory. A sample size of 411 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 391 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 = 3.02). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.454$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.03, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.06$, $p > 0.05$). 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 the cassava value chain efficiency 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.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames assessment as inseparable from the broader question of cassava. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of assessment in everyday life. Studies by Dauda and Osinachi (2019) largely support the view that assessment exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. Such findings reinforce the argument that assessment deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. An examination by Ibrahim and Adeniyi (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames assessment as inseparable from the broader question of cassava. Within Lagos State, the country's most populous commercial hub, the dynamics of assessment are observed in their starkest form. A notable study by Dauda and Bamgbose (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 cassava. A notable study by Ogbeide and Osinachi (2017) argued that the impact of assessment is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. Such findings reinforce the argument that assessment deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of assessment in shaping developmental trajectories. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with assessment. The aggregate picture emerging from Ogbeide and Osinachi (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between assessment and the outcomes of interest. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Adeniyi and Ogunlana (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of assessment are unevenly distributed across groups. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

assessment occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about cassava and national development. Evidence from national agencies indicates that assessment has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. Evidence assembled by Ogunlana and Bamgbose (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to assessment. These observations collectively