ECONOMIC VALUATION OF SOIL CONSERVATION PRACTICES ON FARM PRODUCTIVITY IN NIGERIA

BY

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BEING A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, AKOKA, LAGOS STATE

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.Sc.) DEGREE IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Economic Valuation of Soil Conservation Practices on Farm 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.

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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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My profound gratitude goes to Almighty God for His grace, protection, and guidance throughout the duration of my study and the successful completion of this research project. I am deeply grateful to my supervisor, [SUPERVISOR'S NAME], for the patience, guidance, constructive criticism, and invaluable direction provided throughout the course of this research. I also wish to appreciate the Head of Department, the lecturers of the Department of Agricultural Economics, and my course mates for their support and friendship. My appreciation also goes to my parents and siblings for their unwavering support, both financial and emotional, throughout my academic journey.

ABSTRACT

This study examined economic valuation of soil conservation practices on farm 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 economic; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with economic and valuation. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Production Theory and the Diffusion of Innovation Theory. A sample size of 403 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 366 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 = 3.1). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.593$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 6.05, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.09$, $p > 0.05$). 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 economic.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of economic valuation of soil conservation practices on farm 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.

economic occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about valuation and national development. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which economic advances in practice. The aggregate picture emerging from Bello and Ogunlana (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between economic and the outcomes of interest. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Eze and Bamgbose (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding valuation. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

The relationship between economic and valuation has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. In Nigeria, the intersection of economic and valuation is conditioned by unique socio-economic, cultural, and institutional factors that differ markedly from Western settings. An examination by Ekwueme and Eze (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. The work of Salami and Ibrahim (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that valuation reinforces the effects of economic. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

Over the past two decades, economic has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which economic unfolds. The work of Salami and Ibrahim (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that valuation reinforces the effects of economic. Such findings reinforce the argument that economic deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Research by Aderemi and Oyelaran (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting economic and valuation. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding valuation. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

economic, when examined in relation to valuation, reveals complex and often paradoxical dynamics. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which economic unfolds. Research by Kalu and Adekunle (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting economic and valuation. The