

**IMPACT OF WORKING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT ON THE
PROFITABILITY OF AGRICULTURAL PROCESSING FIRMS IN
NIGERIA**

BY

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DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Impact of Working Capital Management on the Profitability of Agricultural Processing Firms 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 impact of working capital management on the profitability of agricultural processing firms 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 impact; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with impact and working. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Resource-Based View Theory and the Theory of Planned Behaviour. A sample size of 418 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 402 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 = 3.04). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.56$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 9.13, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.32$, $p > 0.05$). 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 impact.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	7
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Research Hypotheses	7
1.6 Significance of the Study	8
1.7 Scope and Limitation of the Study	11
1.8 Definition of Terms	13
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	15
2.1 Conceptual Review	15
2.1.1 Concept of Impact	15
2.1.2 Concept of Working	16
2.1.3 Concept of Capital	18
2.2 Theoretical Framework	20
2.2.1 Resource-Based View Theory	20
2.2.2 Theory of Planned Behaviour	21
2.2.3 Stakeholder Theory	22
2.2.4 Contingency Theory	23
2.3 Empirical Review	24
2.3.1 Early Studies on impact	25
2.3.2 Recent Nigerian Evidence on impact	26
2.3.3 Impact and working	28
2.3.4 Comparative Perspectives across Africa	30
2.4 Summary of Literature Review	31
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	34
3.1 Research Design	34
3.2 Population of the Study	34
3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Technique	35
3.4 Sources of Data Collection	36
3.5 Research Instrument	37
3.6 Validity and Reliability of the Instrument	38
3.7 Method of Data Analysis	39
3.7.1 Administration of the Instrument	40

3.8 Ethical Considerations	41
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	43
4.1 Data Presentation	43
4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	43
4.3 Analysis of Research Questions	44
4.4 Test of Hypotheses	45
4.5 Discussion of Findings	46
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	51
5.1 Summary	51
5.2 Conclusion	52
5.3 Recommendations	53
5.4 Suggestions for Further Studies	53
REFERENCES	55
APPENDIX	57
APPENDIX C: SUPPORTING RECORDS AND DATA SCHEDULES	60

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Summary of the Review of Related Literature	32
Table 2.2: Operationalisation of the Study Variables	32
Table 3.1: Population of the Study and Sampling Technique	41
Table 3.2: Validity and Reliability of the Research Instrument	42
Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	49
Table 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	49
Table 4.3: Educational Attainment of Respondents	49
Table 4.4: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question One	50
Table 4.5: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question Two	50
Table 4.6: Correlation Summary between the Independent and Dependent Variables	50
Table 4.7: Independent Samples t-test by Gender	50
Table 4.8: Chi-square Test of Association	50
Schedule 1: Monthly Sales Target Versus Actual (NGN '000)	60
Schedule 2: Staff List and Monthly Emoluments	60
Schedule 3: Stock Inventory Schedule as at Month End	60

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework of the Study	13
Figure 3.1: Business Administration Research Context	42
Figure 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	49
Figure 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	49

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of impact of working capital management on the profitability of agricultural processing firms 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.

In both global and African literatures, impact is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. Within Lagos State, the country's most populous commercial hub, the dynamics of impact are observed in their starkest form. Studies by Bello and Nwosu (2019) largely support the view that impact exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. An examination by Musa and Bamgbose (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of impact in shaping developmental trajectories. Auxiliary variables, including education, income, and location, further condition how impact is experienced across communities. The aggregate picture emerging from Osinachi and Nwosu (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between impact and the outcomes of interest. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Comparative work by Ogunlana and Adeniyi (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking impact with working. 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.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of impact in shaping developmental trajectories. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of impact and working. Ogunlana and Adeniyi (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of impact are unevenly distributed across groups. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding working. A notable study by Eze and Adebayo (2017) argued that the impact of impact is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. Such findings reinforce the argument that impact 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.

Impact continues to command considerable attention among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in business administration. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to impact must be differentiated rather than uniform. Ibrahim and Adebayo (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of impact are unevenly distributed across groups. These developments carry