



Sustainable Development Goals 1 & 2 Compliant: Evaluating Nigeria's Agricultural Policies 2010 - 2019

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ABSTRACT

The study focuses on Nigeria's agriculture policies and their alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1 and 2. It examined historical and present agricultural policies, food security, and their compliance or relevance to the United Nations set goals or policy framework of Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2. According to the document, despite the Nigerian government's laws and programs, there is still a severe threat of food insecurity to the Nigerian cooperative's existence. In this context, it was investigated to what extent the Nigerian economy is in sync or accord with the idea of the Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2 and agricultural and food security plans. It questioned and investigated the capacity of the Nigerian economy's structural features to impede or assist the realization of food security under Sustainable Development Goal 1&2. As a result, the study detailed and analyzed the agricultural aims, concepts, and programs of the Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2. It also looked at the structure of the Nigerian economy concerning its output structure, domestic economic capacity, and social structure capacity in the context of SDGs 1 and 2 agriculture and food security objectives. Furthermore, it x-rayed the requirements for compliance. Finally, it concluded and made some policy recommendations.

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1. Introduction

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); both are development initiatives planned, designed, and expected to be implemented by United Nations member states in collaboration with other regional and sub-regional agencies/organizations around the world (including the African Union). SDGs 1 and 2 notably include requirements for agricultural transformation related to "Zero Hunger" tolerance and the development of agricultural systems, practices, and policies, as well as other related challenges. It represents a supranational agency's endeavor to address agricultural development and food insecurity worldwide through sustainable and integrated local and national agricultural practices, food systems, and policies (production and consumption included). Only 26 of the 202 UN member nations were on track to reach the SDGs aim of eliminating undernourishment and malnutrition in 2017, while 20% had made no progress, and roughly 70% had no or insufficient data to judge their progress (Olowu, 2009).

The SDGs comprise 17 goals and 169 targets to address global challenges such as poverty, hunger, inequality, and climate change. Two SDGs, Goals 1 and 2, focus on poverty and hunger. Goal 1 aims to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, while Goal 2 aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. In order to meet SDGs 1 and 2, the Nigerian state has shown remarkable confidence and optimism in developing and executing agricultural policies in the context of the MDGs and their successor, the SDGs (Olowu, 2009). However, in light of previous experiences, these policies/initiatives have attempted to increase food production, consumption, investment in research, development, and engagement of technologies to improve the sustainable food system in Nigeria in terms of building the resilience of local food systems that are critical to large scale future food surplus to ensuring food security and good nutrition for all have been met with skepticism and summersault.

Nigeria currently has a considerable deficit in agricultural transformation (zero hunger tolerance and local food systems inclusive), especially compared to other countries in other regions regarding gross national and regional development, sectorial infrastructures and linkages, interventions, and competition. Most rural agricultural projects are poorly designed in terms of economic sectors, production, and consumption linkages; incentives are insufficient to encourage the middle class and investors to venture into agriculture, with most cases focusing on foreign investors rather than domestic investors; railway capacity is very low, with a lack of high quality rail lines for agricultural evacuations, and so on. Overall, Nigeria and its agricultural transformation architecture display a high level of deficiencies, imbalances, dysfunctionality, and maybe decay policies created and implemented (Adewumi, 2021).

The Nigerian government has implemented several agricultural policies and initiatives to address these challenges, including the Agricultural Transformation Agenda (ATA), the Agricultural Promotion Policy (APP), and the Green Alternative Policy. These policies aim to increase agricultural productivity, promote sustainable agriculture, and improve food security in the country (Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, 2016).

Evaluating these agricultural policies is crucial in determining their effectiveness in achieving the SDGs. This study evaluates Nigeria's agricultural policies and their compliance with SDGs 1 and 2. The study will assess the impact of these policies on poverty reduction, food security, and sustainable agriculture practices. The findings of this study will provide insights into the strengths and weaknesses of Nigeria's agricultural policies and contribute to policy recommendations for achieving the SDGs.

2. Methodology

This study's research methodology combines historical and descriptive research designs. The primary source of data collection was secondary, which implies that data were gathered from advanced literature such as textbooks, journals, historical materials, newspapers, internet content, official government publications, etc. These were then qualitatively analyzed using content analysis.

3. Conceptualization

3.1. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1 & 2

SDGs 1 and 2 are action plans for reengineering global agriculture to be more productive. The United Nations' collective ambition is to eradicate poverty and hunger via sustainable agriculture policies and programs. It entails a comprehensive, integrated agricultural development strategy that addresses critical economic, poverty, and priority issues for all nations (including Nigeria) in a cohesive and balanced manner. Ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture were all goals. It is an agricultural development framework in which humans and their agricultural environment serve as both the subject and the object of development (International Food Policy Research Institute Report, 2013).

Indeed, SDGs 1 and 2 evolved from a shared recognition of the world's unbearable grinding poverty and chronic hunger, particularly in the developing south, with Africa

(including Nigeria) providing the worst case scenario. Furthermore, the intention is to halt and reverse the condition manifested by grinding poverty, malnutrition, and hunger by incorporating SDGs 2 into national development strategies and goals.

SDGs 1 and 2 call for abolishing all types of hunger and malnutrition by 2030. This might be accomplished by more than tripling small-scale food producers' agricultural output and incomes (particularly women and indigenous peoples), assuring sustainable food production systems, and gradually improving land and soil quality. Other methods include preserving genetic diversity in seeds, increasing access to land, preventing trade restrictions and distortions in global agricultural markets from limiting extreme food price volatility, eliminating waste with the assistance of the International Food Waste Coalition, and ending childhood malnutrition and undernutrition. There are three techniques to accomplish this: 1) agriculture-led, 2) social protection and nutrition intervention-led, and 3) a combination of both approaches.

3.2. The Evolution of the Nigeria Agricultural Policies

Over the last three and a half decades, Nigeria has created multi-stakeholder players, partnerships, and policies to address agricultural sector development and food security shortfalls and degradation in the framework of the MDGs and their successor, the SDGs. This multi-stakeholder partnership and policies provide new opportunities for Nigeria to engage on new terms that recognize the need for new perspectives within the context of agricultural infrastructures, human resource development, investments, and economic transformation, that Nigerian in the quest for a development-capable region and glorious role in a new and increasingly complex global agricultural and food security economic and investment relations (Fasoranti, 2018).

Since the 1950s, Nigeria's agricultural transformation partnership and policies have expanded beyond traditional policies and partnerships, bringing opportunities for experimenting with various industrial and infrastructure development models and the associated benefits, controversies, dialogue, and challenges. Nigeria's pursuit of more strategic agriculture and food security policies has resulted in many infrastructure and investment projects. This expansive engagement in infrastructure has enormous repercussions, particularly in the electricity sector, highways, railways, seaports, water supply, and so on. Corruption and several national insecurity-related concerns have made implementing sustainable infrastructure development architecture impossible. Furthermore, the policy intervention challenge in examining the basics for establishing and maintaining long-term rural-urban and agricultural infrastructures in the framework of the MDGs and their successor, the SDGs.

According to the Nigeria agricultural policy, agriculture in Nigeria has evolved with the following features since the 1960s (Tenebe, Emenike, & Chukwuka, 2018): until the mid-1960s, there was considerable agricultural intervention that ensured food self-sufficiency and made Africa the major exporter of cash crops; from 1970 to 1986, agriculture had a slump as a result of intensive crude oil exploitation, as a result of the resulting crisis, and through cosmetic programs and policies; beginning in 1998, the government directed its attention to the development and execution of agricultural policies with the primary goal of ensuring food security; beginning in 2003, Nigeria developed and implemented agricultural policies aimed at achieving three primary goals in order to meet MDG requirements: Increase food production in order to achieve food self-sufficiency, Increase output in order to export food in order to diversify foreign exchange revenues away from crude oil, Increase agricultural production in order to create jobs for the unemployed while also providing a good income for farmers.

To achieve the above, the government has engaged in several programs and policies: Operation Feed the Nation (OFN), River Basin Schemes, Integrated rural development program, National Accelerated food production scheme, The establishment of Agricultural and co-operative banks, Green revolution program (GR), National Accelerated Food production project (NAFPP), Agro Service System, National Seed Multiplication program, Agricultural credit e.g. Nigeria Agricultural and Co-operative bank was established

in 1983 to provide the needed capital for farmers, Land use decree was adopted to remove the landownership bottlenecks.

Military regimes engaged in five agricultural programs from 1972 to 1985, immediately following the civil war: National Accelerated Food Production Programme (NAFPP) 1972-1973, Operation Feed the Nation (OFN) 1976-1980, Green Revolution Programme (GRP) 1981-1983, and Go Back to Land Programme. 1983-1985. following the military coup in 1985, portions of the NAFPP were restored. The NAFPP's policy goal was to make Nigeria self-sufficient in food production. Farmers were so advised to implement land reform and mass literacy programs. Another government established OFN, and its purpose was to enhance food production on the idea that the availability of inexpensive food would lead to a greater nutritional level, which would significantly impact national growth until another regime came along. GRP's policy goal was to reduce food imports by increasing crop production and supporting large-scale automated farming. By 1983, another military administration had deposed the civilian government, thus ending GRP and instituting the 'Go back to the land' program, which aimed to turn every Nigerian become a farmer. Two years later, the Directorate of Food, Roads, and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) was founded to aid rural development.

Since 1970, Nigeria appears to have lacked the fundamentals needed to drive agricultural sector change (infrastructure, national security, political will, and policies) in line with food self-sufficiency, food security, poverty reduction, or agricultural best practice. An investigation of the confluence between Nigeria's agricultural policies and the intentions of SDGs 1 and 2 reveals a link in the interaction of many disputes and intrigues based on development cooperation, collaboration, and rivalry.

The difficulties that afflict the development of Nigeria's agriculture and food security policies focus on what should be the priority in the context of the SDGs and how to systematically exploit the vast agriculture infrastructure development cooperation potentials, among other things. In addition, how to turn the conflicts in infrastructural policy designs, insecurity, and collaborative partnership approaches to the advantage of Nigeria as well as achieve a productive focus on the fundamental strategic measures and current alternatives for national security vis-a-vis agricultural development and "zero hunger" in the context of poverty reduction and job creation.

As a result, new questions arise, such as: what are the fundamentals for incorporating productive agriculture development and food security architecture into a national development policy framework in the context of the SDGs? In the framework of the SDGs, what are the parameters for Nigerian agriculture and food security infrastructures or architecture? What metrics should be used to monitor and assess the success or failure of agricultural policy mandates for sustainable rural and urban agricultural development in the context of the SDGs? To what extent are Nigeria's agriculture and food security policies aligned with the SDGs? In other words, will the framework of Nigeria's agriculture and food security goals, programs, and policies facilitate or hinder the achievement of SDG goals and objectives?

Nigeria developed and implemented the Agricultural Transformation Agenda (ATA) and the Agricultural Promotion Policy (APP), which succeeded the ATA from 2010 to the present. Although these two policies have been somewhat successful in the framework of the SDGs, the aforementioned rising questions remain pertinent, and challenging the existing quo will provide the answer. The questions raised above, among others, are addressed in this study.

3.3. Nigeria Agriculture Policies Framework

Agriculture was taken for granted in postcolonial Nigeria, with little government help. It provided adequate food for its growing population, revenue and foreign exchange for the government, employment for more than 70% of the population, and raw materials for the baby industry. With the discovery and sale of oil, severe drought, and civil war, the agriculture sector experienced quick food supply deficits, rising food costs, and diminishing foreign exchange revenues from export between 1965 and 1979. As an antidote to the agricultural sector's plethora of issues, administrations initiated and implemented three

successive National development plans between 1970 and 1985; nevertheless, these plans failed to revitalize the situation. As a result, the government defined and approved a slew of policy instruments between 1985 and 2000 to further grow and boost agricultural productivity in the country. National Accelerated Food Production Programmes (NAFP) 1970 - 1975; River Basin Development Authority Concept (1974 - Date); Operation Feed the Nation (1976 - 1979); Green Revolution (1979 - 1983); Agricultural Development Programmes (ADPs) 1975 - till date; Strategies Food Reserve Programmes, Agricultural Transformation Agenda (ATA), 2010 - 2015; and Agricultural Promotion Policy 2016 - 2020 are some of these policy instruments and programs.

Between the MDGs and the SDGs, specifically from 2010 to 2011, the Nigerian government moved to overhaul the agriculture sector after years of benign neglect. To reform the industry, the government adopted the Agricultural Transformation Agenda (ATA) 2011-2016 to reconstruct the sector, which had lost its importance and was characterized by high amounts of food imports from around the world. By 2016, the ATA has found two (2) gaps: first, Nigeria has yet to achieve its goal of meeting its food supply internally; it continues to import a significant portion of its food supply; and second, Nigeria has yet to gain considerable foreign exchange from agriculture.

The Agriculture Promotion strategy was created and implemented in partnership with the Federal Government, among other Central Bank of Nigeria financial interventions, to overcome these gaps and improve the ATA. ATA has founded on the premise that agriculture is a business, so policy should support it. Its primary goal was to re-launch and reintroduce the Nigerian economy to sustainable agriculture, focusing on a business-like attitude pushed by the private sector. The ATA essentially served as a platform for re-engaging critical stakeholders in Nigeria's agriculture, re-focusing Nigeria's agriculture toward self-sustaining agribusiness, and re-focusing the Nigerian economy toward self-sustaining agribusiness as one of the key ingredients for financing and sustaining the Nigerian economy. ATA's goals include creating 3.5 million employment, generating foreign exchange, and reducing food import spending.

ATA is a crucial first step toward rediscovering agriculture as a source of additional wealth and employment growth in Nigeria in the twenty-first century. ATA has had several significant triumphs in input supply, finance, infrastructure and logistics, production, market access, research, and so on in its four years of operation. However, it also failed to meet all of the objectives. It has failed to create jobs; Nigeria imports food worth billions of dollars each year, and there is significant waste in the manufacturing sector. It has also helped to close the demand-supply gap in Nigeria's agriculture, with the policy package increasing the sector growth rate from 3% to 6% per year between 2011 and 2015. In an attempt to use the benefits of ATA to address ATA's shortcomings, the Nigerian government replaced ATA with APP in 2016 with a four-year lifespan. It is founded on three major pillars: promotion of agricultural investments, financing of agricultural development programs, and agricultural innovation and product research (Ogundari, 2018).

The APP's priority areas are food security, import substitution, job creation, and economic diversification. Because of the Nigerian government's great aim to preserve policy continuity, APP is predicated on some carryover ideas from ATA. It also includes new principles due to the ATA's lessons learned. These principles include agriculture as a business - focusing the policy construct on a government-enabled, private sector-led engagement as the primary driver of the sector, agriculture as a key to long-term economic growth and security - focusing on the inclusion of technologies, financial services, input supply chains, market linkages, commercialization of agriculture vis - a - vis rural economic growth or engagement of poor rural farmers for job creation, economic diversification. Prioritizing crops - focusing policy on improving domestic food security and increasing export earnings by expanding production of rice, wheat, maize, soya beans, and tomatoes (domestic crops); and bananas, avocado, mango, fish, and cashew nuts (export focus), market orientation - focusing policy instruments on stimulating agricultural production on a sustainable basis, and stimulating supply - driven price stabilization mechanism that takes climate change and environmental stability into account - focusing policy instruments on the long-term utilization of natural resources (land and soil, water, and ecosystems) with future generations in mind while expanding agricultural production, participation and

inclusiveness - focusing policy instruments on measures to maximize the full participation of stakeholders such as farmer associations, cooperatives, and other groups such as NGOs, CBOs, CSOs, development partners, and the private sector, Policy integrity entails focusing policy instruments on measures to improve the agricultural business environment in terms of accountability, transparency, and due process of law, as well as ensuring the efficient allocation and use of public funds and combating corruption in all programs involving public resources. Dietary considerations Agriculture - focusing policy instruments on tackling issues of stunting, wasting, underweight, and other manifestations of hunger and malnutrition with a particular focus on vulnerable groups, such as children under the age of five, nursing mothers, and so on; agriculture links with other sectors, focusing policy instruments on the connected relationship between agriculture and other sectors particularly; industry, environment, power, energy, works, and water sectors (Olowu, 2009).

3.4. Nigeria Agricultural Policy & SDGs 1 & 2 Compliant

Regarding compliance with SDGs 1 and 2, Nigeria has made some progress but still faces significant challenges. For example, the National Bureau of Statistics (2020) reported a decline in poverty rates from 69% in 2004 to 40% in 2019, which still represents a high poverty level in the country. In order to comply with the defunct MDGs and their successor, the SDGs, Nigeria has initiated and implemented two comprehensive agricultural policies in the last decade: the defunct Agricultural Transformation Agenda (ATA) (2010-2016) and its successor, the Agricultural Promotion Policy (APP) (2011-Date). This aims to address the extreme poverty, backwardness, food insecurity, and hunger that confront Nigerians despite the country's world-class resources.

3.5. CBN Funding Interventions

Between 2009 and 2015, Nigeria expanded its agricultural investment. Following the MDGs and SDGs, the Central Bank of Nigeria recognized the agriculture sector as a critical priority for enhanced funding tailored to support and promote sector growth. Some of these initiatives have been in place since the 1970s and have been reinforced and incorporated as part of the overall package for reaching the defunct MDGs and their successors, SDGs 1 and 2 (Ogwunike, 2001). These include, among other things, the Agriculture Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund (ACGSF), established by Decree 20 of 1997 but not operational until 1998. The CBN owns 40% of the fund, while the Federal Government of Nigeria owns 60%. Crop and livestock production are among the activities addressed. The maximum credit limit for farmers without collateral is twenty million nairas (20,000, 000.00), and the maximum loan limit is fifty thousand naira (50,000.00). Scheme variations include: the Trust fund model, which was introduced in 2001 to increase bank confidence in granting credit to farmers and to provide a framework for increasing credit supply to the agricultural and rural sectors of the economy, as well as to reduce the risk of deposit money banks' exposure in agricultural lending to farmers without collateral loans under the ACGSF; the Trust fund model, which was introduced in 2001 to improve a framework for credit supply to the agricultural and rural sectors of the economy; the Trust fund model, which was introduced in 2001 to increase bank confidence in granting credit to farmers and to provide a framework for increasing credit supply to the agricultural and rural sectors of the economy, as well as to reduce the risk of deposit money banks' exposure in agricultural lending to farmers without collateral loans under the ACGSF; the Trust fund model, which was introduced in 2001 to improve a framework for credit supply to the agricultural and rural sectors of the economy; it offers interest rebates to farmers who borrowed via the ACGSF in order to lessen the cost of borrowing and the burden of high interest rates; agriculture Credit Support Scheme, established to help farmers capitalize on the country's unrealized agricultural potential. The scheme is run through a fifty billion naira (50 billion) virtual fund established by the FGN, with deposit money banks actively participating; the Commercial Agriculture Credit Scheme was formed in 2009 to finance large-scale projects throughout the agricultural value chain. It is delivered to beneficiaries at a single digit of 9% for seven years. The program has been extended through 2025 (Ogwunike, 2001).

3.6. The Practical Implication of the Study

The practical implications of this study are related to evaluating Nigeria's agricultural policies and their compliance with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1 and 2. The findings of this study have several implications for policymakers, farmers, and other stakeholders involved in Nigeria's agriculture sector. Firstly, the study provides policymakers with valuable insights into the effectiveness of current agricultural policies and identifies areas that require improvement. For example, since the study finds that current policies do not adequately address poverty reduction or food security, policymakers can use this information to develop more effective policies that align with the SDGs. Secondly, the study informs farmers and other stakeholders about the importance of sustainable agricultural practices, access to credit and financial services, and investment in agricultural research and development to achieve poverty reduction and food security. This will help farmers to adopt more sustainable practices and improve their livelihoods.

Finally, the study contributes to the body of literature on agricultural policies and their impact on poverty reduction and food security, particularly in developing countries like Nigeria. This will help inform future research on agricultural policies and contribute to developing more effective policies that can better support sustainable agricultural practices and the achievement of the SDGs. In summary, the practical implications of this study include informing policymakers, farmers, and other stakeholders about the effectiveness of current agricultural policies, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and contributing to the development of more effective policies that can better support the achievement of SDGs 1 and 2 in Nigeria.

3.7. The Gap of the Study

Despite the significant attention given to Nigeria's agricultural policies and their impact on poverty reduction and food security, there is still a need for a comprehensive evaluation of these policies and their compliance with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1 and 2. While some studies have examined specific aspects of Nigeria's agriculture sector, there is still a lack of studies that evaluate the effectiveness of multiple policies in achieving SDGs 1 and 2. Thus, this study aims to fill this gap by comprehensively evaluating Nigeria's agricultural policies and their compliance with SDGs 1 and 2.

4. Policy Discussion

These two policy initiatives, among others, have contributed to increased food production and security regarding animal husbandry and food crops, poverty eradication, farmer marginalization, and job creation. The measures have also made some progress toward achieving SDGs 1 and 2. Due to these policies, Nigeria's agricultural sector is now distinguished by increased primary and secondary production, increased share of global agricultural trade, increased output and export, the dominance of the private sector and/or public-private partnership, and so on. These have resulted in some expansion in the industry, resulting in a considerable reduction in poverty and food self-sufficiency/security.

These two policies have been able to meet SDGs 1 and 2 to some extent by implementing some basic activities or frameworks and redefinition of the state's role in strengthening national and supranational capacity for agriculture sector production, local consumption, and export through high-level private sector activity. In accordance with this policy, the state has shifted from a dominant position in agricultural production to a more acceptable role of public-private sector collaboration while supporting exclusively private sector activity or participation in the field. In this framework, the government has intervened in areas of market failure. The government has also encouraged the private sector to take the lead in manufacturing, investment, and commerce by; establishing a strong public-private partnership; in this relationship, both national and sub-national governments and their agencies are doing everything possible within their statutory responsibilities to assist Nigerian farmers and corporate agricultural businesses in producing enough food for the Nigerian population, as well as scaling up and dominating global markets. This policy has been promoted by: Institutionalised arrangements to bring together various stakeholders and agricultural sector leaders to build a shared

understanding and values on how to move the agriculture industry forward, create opportunities for cooperative agricultural policy analysis, deliberation, and action in order to produce broad-based public policy that is in the sector's best interests, offer realistic ideas for removing barriers to competitiveness, boosting productivity, and encouraging intra- and international trade and investment in the agriculture sector, fostering intra- and inter-sectorial backward and forward links, promoting or facilitating collaborative action planning and mobilization of pooled resources through well-coordinated partnerships.

Compared to the dominance of the undiversified crude oil production base, developing a robust production base is based on value-added agriculture and related products. It provides momentum to shape the economy away from crude oil production and export structure, bolstered by a highly consuming local population and the development of a fledgling manufacturing export capability and reliance on nature/commodities as main exports.

Rising Domestic Investments; data analysis in the agriculture sector shows increased domestic investments in both primary and secondary production of agricultural and associated products. What is unclear is whether this is due to increased domestic savings or other factors, such as improving private partnerships through measures aimed at achieving macroeconomic stability in the sector, removing distortions in the sector, providing tax incentives, and fostering a climate of confidence and stability. This decade's increase has seen significant gains when compared to earlier decades.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): One of the policy priorities is to develop the agricultural sector for food self-sufficiency, food security, export, and job creation by encouraging and attracting long-term capital inflows, particularly FDI, with all the benefits of technology transfer and know-how. Tapping into domestic savings is a significant source of domestic savings or closing the resource gap, resulting in the required goal attainment. With deepening market failures, capacity shortages, poverty, social and economic conflicts, and changes in private capital and experiences over the last fifty years, the policy recognizes that the odds of private capital input into this sector are, at best, unclear. One significant exception is Chinese FDI, motivated by selfless political motives.

Sectorial Priorities: The policy approach aims to enhance the cost profile and business environment in the supply of infrastructures (mainly rural infrastructures) primarily used for agricultural production (primary and secondary). Furthermore, agricultural items (crops, cereals, forestry products, poultry, and fishery) are gaining ground, while exports are declining. Also, human resource development programs can create the necessary technical, skilled, or specialized labor for the sector.

5. Conclusion and Policy Prescription

Previous efforts to address agricultural development challenges or shortfalls in Nigeria failed or lagged because the following tactics were used: disjointed programs and policies, instability of programs and policies, piecemeal programs and policies that prioritize obtaining program and policy outcomes above creating a long-term foundation for sustainable development, a lack of ordinary awareness and grasp of issues, as well as a lack of data and analytical frameworks to facilitate assessments of agreed-upon performance and compliance frameworks, inadequate capacity. As a result, achieving multifaceted aims and techniques would provide numerous policy obstacles.

The ATA and the APP (its successor) represent the Nigerian government's strategic policy thrust or perspective in the context of SDG 1 and 2 compliance, overcoming some of these issues. To attain a high level of compliance, agricultural policy should place greater emphasis on the following goals: achieving self-reliance and self-sufficiency in the production of essential food requirements, Increasing agricultural production and sustainability through R&D, expanding the area under sustainable land management, and establishing dependable water control systems Improving rural infrastructure and market access, increasing food supply and lowering hunger/fighting food and agricultural emergencies Forward and backward links between the agriculture industry and other sectors of the economy are encouraged.

Attaining an equal and reasonable level of income distribution among food producers, as well as maintaining good nutritional standards. Revamping the agricultural industry to create work chances for Nigeria's teeming unemployed youths and other population groups, Attaining food security through access to high-quality food while transforming Nigeria into a major food exporter, and Creating more excellent value in the production and downstream value chains, such as enhanced storage, processing, and access to agricultural markets.

As a result, the current agricultural policy (APP) is based on the achievements of ATA and the developments of previous agricultural policies and programs, some of which are still being implemented, and they have latent potential to reposition the Nigerian agricultural sector vis-à-vis the SDGs 1 and 2, appearing to be optimistic and in agreement with the laudable goals of SDGs 1 and 2. Despite its agreement, execution is beset with various problems and limits that make its goals impossible. For these policies to be implemented, there must be a persistent political will for good sectorial management, commitment, and change. It must also accommodate technology, incentives for FDI inflows, infrastructure development, and high-level private sector participation, which should accelerate national economic growth, food self-sufficiency and security, job generation, and poverty reduction.

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