

ASSESSMENT OF WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE: A CASE STUDY OF OYO STATE, NIGERIA.

BY

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Introduction

- Women's role in agriculture (32% GDP, 70% contribution to food growth).
- Little or no access to land, water, fertilizer for women in irrigated agriculture as compared to men.
- Climate change is posing a threat to agricultural production, irrigation stands as a way out.
- Limiting women's access to productive agricultural resources has caused a shift in gender relations.

Methods

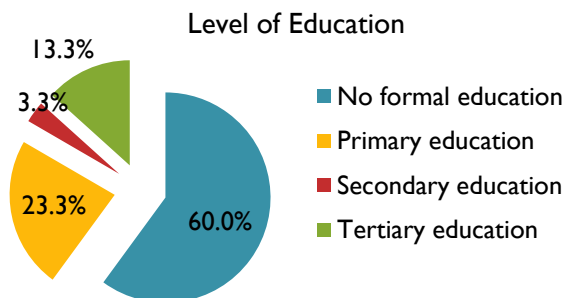
- Study Area: Oyo State, Nigeria
- Sampling Technique: Random Sampling
- Sampling Procedure: 30 women from the 4 irrigation centers in OYSADEP
- Sampling size: 120 respondents
- Statistics: Descriptive (frequencies, Charts), Inferential (chi-square).

Objectives

- ❖ Socio-economic characteristics
- ❖ Types of crop grown
- ❖ Activities during irrigation practices
- ❖ Effects of irrigation on women's livelihood
- ❖ Constraints in irrigated agriculture

Results

- 76.7% are married.
- Women have no water pumps and personal lands.
- Crops grown are amaranths, tomatoes, cochorus, okra, celosia garden egg.
- Highly participates in planting, weeding, marketing, processing and storage of crops.
- **Effects on livelihood**-increases income, food production, food security and relieves men financial burden.
- **Problems** faced are:
 - Lack of reliable water source and storage
 - Lack of modern irrigation facilities
 - No credit facilities/loans.
 - Political marginalization.



Conclusions

- ✓ Simple modern irrigation facilities such as sprinklers, water pumps and rain-water harvesters should be provided for women irrigators.
- ✓ Credits/loans should be made available through agricultural banks.
- ✓ Farm inputs especially fertilizers should be distributed to women farmers to maintain gender balance.