

I. Research

(a) Research Focus

My area of specialisation, in the field of agricultural extension, is textile and clothing. This research orientation has been shaped by the pressing need for the revitalisation of textile and clothing industry that will turn engender national development through the textile industry.

Research efforts have been targeted at exploring the use of chitosan from crab shells and neem extracts in finishing cotton fabrics for the prevention of human skin infections.

Attention has been given to agrotextile that is the use of textile in agricultural practices these include post-harvest loss mitigation, climate adaptative farming.

It is no doubt that cotton is the chief fibre for textile production around the world but challenges facing agricultural production in Nigeria has not spared its production hence the need to look towards other alternative, especially the under-utilised fibres like banana stem, coconut coir and pineapple leaves. These plants are readily available in Southern Nigeria. The growers focus only on the fruits and allow the stems, coirs and leaves to waste hence research is being directed to explore the use of these fibres for the production of textile products. This could bring more revenue to the farmers other than what they get from fruits.

(b) Completed

- i. Effects of Chitosan and Neem Extracts Finished-Cotton Fabrics in Prevention of Human Skin Infections.
- ii. Influence of Colour on Fashion Consumption Among Nigerian Undergraduate Students: A Case Study of The Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA), Nigeria.
- iii. Assessment of Post-Consumer Textile Waste Management in Akure Metropolis.
- iv. Assessment of Merchandising and Distribution System of Resist-Dyed Fabrics in Selected Cities of South-Western Nigeria.

(c) In progress

- i. **Usage of Under-Utilise Fibre for Textile Production: A Case Study of Banana Stem**

It is no doubt that cotton is the chief fibre for textile production around the world but challenges facing agricultural production in Nigeria has not spared its production hence the need to look towards other alternative, especially the under-utilised fibres like banana stem. Banana is one of the readily available plants in Southern Nigeria. The growers focus only on the fruit and allow the stem to waste, the study intends to explore the use of banana stem fibre for the production of textile products. This could bring more revenue to the banana farmers.

ii. Assessment of the Inclusivity of Nigerian Agricultural Policies on Persons with Disabilities

Agriculture is defined broadly as the set of activities that use land and other natural resources to produce food, fibre, and animal products for direct consumption (self-consumption) or for sale, either as food or as input to the manufacturing industry. Agricultural policies are typically implemented by governments with the goal of achieving a specific outcome in domestic agricultural product markets. In Nigeria, agricultural policy is shaped around the axis of increasing productivity and competitiveness, ensuring food security and safety, and promoting long-term development. The Nigeria Agricultural Policy provided the framework for implementation of programmes and guidelines for agricultural development. The broad objective was to attain self-sustaining growth in all the sub-sectors of agriculture and realization of the structural transformation relevant for overall socio-economic development of rural areas. However, Persons with Disabilities could not be said to have been adequately included in the policies thereby compounding their economic and livelihood woes. The study seeks to examine the relevant Nigerian agricultural policies with a view to determining their inclusivity amongst the person with disability.

iii. Assessment of Value Chain Stakeholders of Groundnut, Maize and Oil Palm in Nigeria

Groundnut, maize, and oil palm are significant crops in Nigeria, playing vital roles in both the agricultural economy and the daily lives of Nigerians. Maize is an important food crop, while groundnut and oil palm are major cash crops with both domestic and international market value and contribute to the nation's gross domestic product (GDP). Despite the roles of these vital crops in the economic development of households and the nation at large, the value chain stakeholders are faced with daunting challenges hence the study seeks to identify key stakeholders, current opportunities, their current challenges in order to proffer solutions to the identified challenges.