EFFECT OF ECONOMIC RECESSION ON HOUSEHOLDS INVOLVEMENT IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN ZAMFARA STATE

BY

BAWAALLAH ADAM
1510205007

NOVEMBER 2019

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BEING PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT & SOCIAL SCIENCES, FUG, IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT FOR THE AWARD OF B.SC, ECONOMICS.

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SUPERVISOR

MALAM MANSUR ABDULLAHI

NOVEMBER, 2019

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DECLARATION

I **Bawaallah Adam** a student of economics Department, Faculty of social and management sciences, Federal University Gusau. With the registration number **1510205007**, hereby declared that this project was written through my personal research findings.

_____   **25-11-2019**
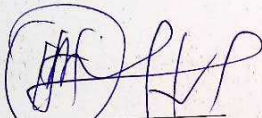**BAWAALLAH ADAM**   **Date**

APPROVAL PAGE

This is to certify that, this research project was carried out under our supervision and has been approved for submission to the Federal University Gusau in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of B. Sc (Economics).
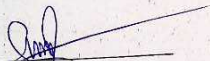
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Dr Dahiru Sulaiman
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11/12/2019
Date

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DEDICATION

This research work is dedicated to Almighty Allah for given me strength to go through this programme successfully, our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW), my parents, guidance and my entire family

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

All praises be to Allah the creator and sustainer of mankind and the universe, may peace and blessing of Allah be upon our Noble Prophet Muhammad (SAW), I sincerely express my gratitude to Almighty Allah for giving me this opportunities to accomplished this research work and taking me to this level.

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the effect of economic recession on household involvement in agricultural production in Zamfara state, Nigeria. The study employs the use of primary research method of data collection in which questionnaires was administered to collect information regarding the objectives of the studies. Mean rating method and chi-square method was used to answer research question and test the hypothesis respectively. The mean rating method shows that there is negative relationship between economic recession and agricultural production in Nigeria. Result gotten from the data analysis using chi-square shows that there is significant relationship between economic recession and household involvement in agricultural production in Nigeria

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

In fact Nigeria is richly blessed with huge physical, human and natural resource endowments yet, the majority of its population lives below poverty line. The national survey conducted in 2018 shows that poverty has risen in Nigeria, with at least 90.8 million people are extremely living on less than a US$1.90 per day despite economic growth this constitute a staggering 46.4 percent of its estimated 195.6 million total population. [World Bank, 2016]. However, Agriculture is made up of four sub-activities; crop production, lives stock, forestry, and fishing although crop production is the largest and account for 88% of the sector grow by 6.45% year-on-year. This was lower than the growth recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2015, and also lower than that in the preceding quarter, by 3.05% points and 0.92percent points respectively [NBS, 2016].The word economic recession has become a household name in Nigeria since June 2016. Ever since the central bank of Nigeria [CBN] and Minister of finance admitted that Nigeria is experiencing economic recession on 3rd of June, 2016, it has become major concern of all Nigerians [Noko, 2016].

Agriculture which plays a cardinal role in Nigeria's economy contributing the greatest share to the nation's gross domestic production (GDP). For instance, in 2010 agriculture's accounts for about 70% of the working population and contribute with about 60% to the national income, its contribution to the gross domestic product (GDP) accounted for about 40% (CBN 2011). This implies that the crop sub-sector contributed 89.2 percent of agriculture GDP. Furthermore, agriculture generates employment opportunities for over 70 percent of the total

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labor force, accounts for about 60 % of the non-oil exports and, perhaps most important, provides over 80 percent of the food needs of the country (Adegboye, 2004; Onwuemenyi, 2008; CBN, 2008).

Despite these indicators, Nigeria's agricultural performance in recent times remains inadequate and indeed far less than its potentials. Food demand exceeds the supply thus leading to large importations of food, which further erodes the country foreign exchange. The growing food import over the years gave rise to escalating foreign exchange expenditures, which could have been invested in other areas of the economy. The food import bill for Nigeria rose from N 654 billion in 2007 to 943.6 billion[CBN,2018].Whereas it could only boast of agricultural export worth of N40billion (CBN, 2007). At the heart of this inadequacy of the sector lies the foremost problem of low productivity, as will be clarified later in this introduction. Low productivity in the country over the last three years has been as a result of the economic recession in the country.

With "farming is our pride" as the state's slogan, Zamfara is largely an agrarian state with the overwhelming majority of its people engaged in one form of farming practice or the other (Galadima and Lawal, 2017). Thus economy recession has been part of their experience and challenges which as affected various area mostly household in the state, as well as production of food (Dangusau, 2017). It is on this note that this research work seeks to observe the effect of economic recession on household involvement in agricultural productions in Zamfara state, Nigeria.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Agriculture has been regarded as the mainstay of the Nigerian economy especially in the 1970's. Agricultural sector is a sector with a potential for earning foreign exchange. This is a sector that has greater comparative advantage in Nigeria economy. Agricultural sector is very important in the third world countries, especially Nigeria. It provides food supply, generate income, employment, and export earnings for the economy. It is believed that the agricultural sector is critical for both overall economic growth and the reduction of poverty. Nigeria is blessed with immense land resources that are still largely underutilized with liberal regulations in relation to foreign trade and the adoption of a structural programme that focused on the competitiveness of the sector. Agricultural sector stands a good chance in the international market to be competitive if the economy of the country is smooth.

What is the position of the Agricultural sector in this global economic meltdown? In any economy, some sectors can integrate faster than the orders; some economies have comparative advantages in some sectors as compared to other economies. In Nigeria for example, agricultural sector is assumed to have comparative advantage in the international trade provided the economy is smooth and running unlike the economic downturn facing Nigeria and which is directly or indirectly affecting the agricultural sector due to the inability of some households to afford basic farm implements for farming and thereby raising their standard of living. It is on this basis that the study examines the effect of economic recession on households' involvement in agricultural production in Zamfara State, Nigeria.

1.3 Research Questions

The following are some of the questions which this study intends to answer:

i) What is the relationship between economic recession and agriculture sector in Nigeria?

ii) What are the ways in which economic recession can be averted in Nigeria through agriculture?

iii) What is the influence of economic recession in Nigeria?

iv) What are the causes of economic recession in Nigeria?

(Hypothesis of the Study)

Ho: There is no significant relationship between Economic Recession and Households involvement in Agricultural sector in Nigeria.

Hi: There is a significant relationship between Economic Recession and Households involvement in Agricultural sector in Nigeria.

1.4 Research Objectives

The study has both broad objective and specific objectives. The objective or main objective of this study is to examine the effect of economic recession on households' involvement in agricultural production in Zamfara state, Nigeria. The specific objectives are:

i) To identify the relationship between economic recession and agriculture sector in Nigeria

ii) To study how economic recession can be averted in Nigeria through agriculture

iii) To understand the influence of economic recession in Nigeria

iv) To investigate the causes of economic recession in Nigeria

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study sought to investigate the effect of economic recession on households' involvement in agricultural production in Zamfara state, Nigeria. It will show the reason why there is economic

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recession in the country and give insight on how economic recession directly affects economic growth and proffers a lasting solution to the Nigerian government.

The study will help farmers, entrepreneurs, government, unemployed and underemployed individuals in the country to understand the risks that economic recession possess.

This study will also contribute to academic literature by bringing about the relationship between agriculture and economic recession in the country.

This study can also serve as a foundation for further research to be conducted in Nigeria.

1.6 Scope of the Study

This research is carried out among farmers in Zamfara state. It sought to investigate the effect of economic recession on households' involvement in agricultural production in Zamfara State, Nigeria. However the variables of interest shall be: economic 'recession' and 'agriculture'. While agriculture in the country is dependent variable, economic recession is the independent variable.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

This study entailed investigation into a variety of issues to be able to achieve a comprehensive study of the problems; a lot of constraint may likely be encountered in form of data collection, lack of adequate information from the respondents. There may be difficulty in trying to match all the different opinions from the respondents together. Financial constraints to a large extent also affected the way this work may have been carried out. The main limitation of this survey was the difficulty in getting accurate information from the subsistence farmers in the city.

1.8 Definition of Terms

The following terms were used in the course of this study:

Agriculture: It is the science or practice of farming, including cultivation of soil for growing of crops and the rearing of animals to provide food, wool, and other production for man's use.

Economic Recession: Is a significant decline in economic activity spread across the economy, lasting more than a few months, normally visible in real GDP, real income, employment, industrial production, and wholesale-retail sales.

1.9 Organisation of the study

The whole of the study comprise five chapters: Chapter one contain the background of the study, statement of the problem, research question, research hypothesis, research objective, significance of the study, scope of the study, and definition of terms. Chapter two present review of related literatures. Chapter three also present methodology to be used. Chapter four captures presentation and analysis of data collected as well as findings of the study. While Chapter five contain summary, conclusion and recommendation which will arise from the study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

The term literature review implies the discussion of existing literature related to the research being conducted. Literature review is not just listing of various studies that are related to the problem at hand but it is characterized by using direct works related to the research problem and those that are directly connected. Thus in studying the effect of economic recession on household involvement on agricultural production, reference is made to a number of written documents already advanced in respect of the area of study.

2.1 Conceptual Literature

2.1.1 Economic Recession:

Economic Recession is the combination of two different words "economic" and "recession". The word "economic" deals with managing the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services (Kenton, 2018). According to the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) defines recession as "a period of falling economic activity spread across the economy; lasting more than a few months. The economic activities earlier mentioned are production, distribution, and consumption. When a country is in the phase of recession, the economy is far from the point of effective use of resources to achieve those mentioned economic activities, i.e. far from the optional production and natural rate of unemployment (Nikoloski and Lazarov, 2000).

Economic recession can also be referred to as economic crisis or financial crisis, it is a period of economic slowdown that is characterized by declining in productivity and devaluing of financial institutions often due to reckless and when unstainable money lending (Wikipedia, 2008).

According to Kinberly (2006), recession is when the economy declines significantly for at least six months. It means there is a drop in the following economic indicators:

i. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

ii. Income level of individual and revenue generation of Government

iii. Employment

iv. Manufacturing and

v. Retail Sales.

2.1.2 Agriculture:

Agriculture is the science and art of cultivating plants and livestock (Wikipedia). Also it is defined as "the systematic raising of useful plants and livestock under the management of man (Rimando, T.J. 2004). More so, Agriculture is the deliberate effort to modify a portion of Earth's surface through the cultivation of crops and the raising of livestock for sustenance or economic gain (Rubenstein, J.M. 2003).

Agriculture is also refers to as cultivation of land, raising and rearing of animals for the purpose of production of food for man, animals and raw materials for industries. It involves and comprises crop production, livestock, forestry and fishery, processing and marketing of these agricultural products (mabuza et al, 2008).

2.1.3 Effect of the fall in the price of oil on Agricultural Production in Nigeria

Agriculture has been the main stay of the Nigeria economy right from the independence. In the 1960's, Nigeria was the world's largest exporter of groundnut, the second largest exporter of cocoa and palm product and an important exporter of rubber, cotton (sekunmade, 2009). But due

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to relevance of oil as a major contributor to the GDP over the years led to its neglecting by government (Abdullahi, 1981). However, due to fall in international price of oil in the third quarter of 2014 resulting to a decline in revenue thereby, leading to contraction of economic activities which subsequently plunged the economy into recession (Hamilton, 2014). The shock experienced as a result of the fall in oil price severely affected the Nigerian economy. The economy drastically slowed down in 2015 as annual GDP growth declined to 2.7% from 6.2 in 2014. By 2016, the Nigerian economy registered its first recession since 1991, recording a growth of -1.5% as oil production shortage prolonged due to activities of Niger Delta militants and decline in oil price. Notably, the under performance in the oil sector spilled over to the non-oil sector through the exchange rate channel with non-oil sector contributing 0.2% to record its worst performance since 1984(Berument, 2010). However, by the second quarter of 2017, the Nigerian economy exited its recession recording a positive growth rate of 0.5% [1]. By and large, the shock experienced during this recession is still being felt by the people to the extent that feeding well becomes a problem udoma (2018).

Therefore, in an attempt to revamp the economy from the devastating effects of recession, the government came up with an economic plan known as Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP). Agriculture being one of the key sectors of the economy has been outlined in the ERGP to help arrest the problem of food insecurity, generate employment, improve foreign exchange earnings and drive industrialization. Thus, it must be pragmatically supported to ensure the achievement of the stated goals (inoykwe, 2018).

2.2 Theoretical Framework

Cobweb theory

The cobweb theory of business cycle was propounded in 1930 independently by Professor H.Schultz of America, J.Tinbergen of the Netherland and U.Ricci of Italy. But it was Prof. N.Kaldor of Cambridge University England who used the name cobweb theorem because the pattern of movement of prices and output resembled a cobweb. Cobweb theory is the idea that price fluctuation can lead to fluctuation in supply which cause a cycle of rising and falling prices. In a simple cobweb model, we assume there is an agricultural market where supply can vary due to variable factors such as weather.

Assumption of cobweb theory

i. In an agricultural market, farmers have to decide how much to produce a year in advance-before they know what market price will be (supply is price inelastic in short-term).

ii. A key determinant of supply will be the price from the previous year.

iii. A low price will mean farmers will go out of business. Also, a low will discourage farmers from growing that crop in the next year.

iv. Demand for agricultural goods is usually price inelastic (fall in price only cause a smaller % increase in demand).

In the theory, the market (i.e. the economy) could fluctuate between high price and low price as suppliers respond to past price

Keynes theory of business cycle

According to J.M Keynes in his general theory of income, output and employment (1993). The theory of business cycle stressed that if there is insufficient and unstable investment can bring

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about fluctuations in output and employment. To him the fluctuation in economic activities are due to the fluctuation in aggregate effective demand. Fall in aggregate effective demand will create the condition of recession or depression in the economy. If the aggregate demand is increasing, economic expansion will take place. According to Keynes these could be achieved through government intervention (Kloop, 2009, p.39). According to Oyejide (2008), agriculture is the sector accounting for the dominant share of gross domestic product (GDP), employment, export earnings and food supply, carries a great deal of the economic burden and contains much of the potential of many African countries. Thus, the agricultural sector is critical for both overall economic growth and the reduction of poverty in the typical African country.

Structural change theory

This theory was developed by Levis Arthur in the year 1954 and called it development with unlimited supply of labor. According him, economy is basically made up of the following: traditional (subsistence) sector and the other is the modern (capitalist, industrial or manufacturing) sector. This gave rise to the sector model. The theory has it that the development of an economy is dependent on the growth of two sectors:

$$Y=f\ (Agric,\ Ind).$$

Where: Y=Economic development

Agric=Agricultural sector

Ind=Industrial sector

This theory focuses on the mechanism by which under developed economy can transform their domestic economic structures from a heavy emphasis on traditional subsistence agriculture to a more modern and more advance agriculture practice through heavy financial support in order to attain industrial breakthrough. The benefits here can only be achieved if

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and only if the government support system are created which provide the necessary incentives, economic opportunities and most importantly access to needed inputs to enable expansion in output and raise productivity. The theory suggested structural changes that control productivity.

Theory of Peasant Behaviour

The theory of peasant behavior as put forward by T.W. Schultz (1964) is another lesson for Nigerian agriculture. Shultz's theory of traditional agriculture tries to explain the desire of the developing countries to transform traditional rural agricultural society for increased food production and overcome misery of hunger, illiteracy and other social vices that are inimical to development.

The hypothesis is designed to get peasant farmers to modernize agricultural production techniques and output in the sector, (i.e. increased value chain). The study examined the efficiency with which farmers within traditional agriculture allocates factors of production at their disposal, ensure of price efficiency, mobilization of resources and its utility maximization. The study reveals that farmers are more efficient in re allocating factors of production in current agriculture and no significant indivisibilities in either production or factors of production. Both product and factor prices are flexible and that, there is no unemployment or underemployment or zero marginal product of labor (MPL >0) in peasant traditional agriculture.

This was against the view of Arthur Lewis that traditional agriculture operates at zero marginal productivity (MPL=0) of labor at a certain stage when diminishing returns set in. Shultz emphasizes that farmers respond to profit where marginal cost is equal to marginal revenue (MC=MR) and individual utility maximization is also the maximization of the utility of the

whole community. Hence this constitutes a signpost for Nigerian agriculture that when resources are fully mobilized in the sector, farmers can competitively allocate and re-allocate existing factors of production (i.e. resources) through efficient methods to increase output and wealth in the agricultural sector.

2.3   Empirical Literature

Agbedeyi and Adigwe (2018) in their analysis the impact of economic recession on food production in Nigeria using ogwashi-uku, Delta state, Nigeria as a case of study. The data was obtained true face to face interview and from structural questionnaire. The analytical tools used for the analysis is Chi-square. The multiple bar charts show that there is an increase in food production within the year 2014-2016. Results gotten from the data analysis using Chi-square also shows that economic recession has caused an increase in food production in ogwashi-uku. Delta state within the period of economic recession. Thus, they concluded that economic recession has increase agricultural production generally in Nigeria.

Owolabi, Bichi and Onanaiye (2017) investigate the impact of agricultural on economic growth especially in developing countries as Nigeria. However, it is the case that with Nigeria presently in a recession, Government policy in recent time has focused on effort to boost agricultural sector as an engine for economic recovery. They employ granger causality and augmented Dickey fuller unit root test, co-integration and error correction model over the period of 1981 to 2013 and find out that the result shows that long run equilibrium relationship existed among the variables and result of error correction model revealed that economic growth has a positive and significant impact on agriculture.

Loto (2011), in his analysis the position of the agricultural sector in the Nigeria economy both descriptively and empirically during and before the global downturn. Using structural regression model. Descriptively, the performance of the Nigeria agricultural sector was analyzed using the indices of performance such as (index of agricultural production, agricultural export, Import and share in total GDP). It was discovered that before the meltdown, all indicator of performance used shows a downward trend. The period during the meltdown shows some little improvement. Thus, empirically, the performance of agricultural sector shows increasing trend during the global meltdown.

Johan and Kristine (2010). Has study empirically the impact of global economic and financial crises on food security and the agricultural sector of Eastern Europe and central Asia using time-series data over the period of 2008 and 2009 find out that the crises had a positive impact on the evolutions in the agricultural sector and on poverty reduction.

Omorogbe (2016). Focus on the impact of economic recession on household participant in agricultural production in Abeokuta, Ogun state. Using Chi-square analysis and find out that there is negative relationship between economic recession and agricultural production in Nigeria.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

Introduction

This study seeks to look at effect of economic recession on household involvement in agricultural production in Zamfara state. Thus the chapter discusses the methodology employed in the course of this research. The research design, population of the study, sample of the study and analytical statistics shall be examined.

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

There are various methods of research design but for the purpose of this study, a survey method shall be adopted to analyze the data obtained from the primary sources, which involves going to the field to get data from the people (respondents). The closed-ended questionnaire was used in collecting data from the respondents to solved and attained research problem and research objective respectively.

3.2 POPULATION AND SAMPLING OF THE STUDY

The population of this study comprises all the farmers in Zamfara state. While the sampling procedure employed is random sampling technique, where by every respondent in the population have an equal chance (probability) of being chosen. The method used enables the researcher to get detailed information from the respondent. A total sample of one hundred and twelve (112) respondent was drawn from the population and questionnaires were distributed to various categories of people in the study area particularly those who engage themselves in agricultural production in one way or the other.

3.3 METHOD OF COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

Data analysis was collected through primary source to meet the information requirement of this study. Primary sources, According to Francis (1978) primary data are those data obtained for the solution of the specific problem at hand. This source of data is very useful because the data arising there from are usually target tailored. Source certain kinds of information can be obtained only by direct contact with the persons who possess the desired information, this source of data is indispensable to any original research. Hence, my primary source of data was a field survey

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using questionnaire as the main instrument. The questionnaire was a four-point rating scale (likert scale), starting from strongly agreed (SA), agreed (A), disagreed (D), and strongly disagreed (SD).The questionnaire is designed in such a way that every question in the questionnaire was related to the research questions and hypothesis of the study. Also the result is used to answer the research question and test the relevant hypothesis.

3.4 MODEL SPECIFICATION

In presenting and analyzing the data collected for the purpose of this study, reliance was placed on a mean rating method to analyze the data based on the 2.5 and above acceptance region format to answer the research question. While in testing the hypothesis, the study wishes to adopt the Pearson's (1900) cumulative test statistics.

X = total score of each questions

N = total sample size and

P% = the percentage arrived at and hence the formula. Also the chi-square (X^2 test) was employed to test the validity of the hypothesis and meaningful conclusion was drawn. This was carried using the chi-square formula:

Where: O = observe frequency

E = expected frequency

Σ = summation

The test was done at 5% significant level with a degree of freedom given as $v = (R-1)(C-1)$.

Where: R = the number of rows and

C = the number of columns

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CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

This section presents the results of the field study; it shows the descriptive information of the respondents, the results of each of the research questions and the test of hypothesis.

4.1 Demographic Information of the Respondents

Table 4.1: Distribution of the Respondents based on their Marital Status

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Married	56	50.0	50.0	50.0
	Single	28	25.0	25.0	75.0
	Widowed	20	15.0	15.0	90.0
	Separated	4	5.0	5.0	95.0
	Divorced	4	5.0	5.0	100.0
	Total	112	100.0	100.0	

The tables 4.1 above revealed that majority of the respondents for this study are married as indicated by about 50 percent of the total respondents. The table also shows that about 25 percent of the respondents are single, while the about 15 percent are widows. This indicates that majority of the respondents are with family and children with the attendant responsibilities and maturity that comes with family and children.

Table 4.2: Distribution of the Respondents based on their Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Below 20 years	24	21.0	21.0	21.0
	21 -30 years	44	39.0	39.0	60.0
	31-40 years	32	29.0	29.0	89.0

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41 years and above	12	11.0	11.0	100.0
Total	112	100.0	100.0	

The table 4.2 above indicates the distribution of the respondents based on their age, the table shows that about 89 percent of the respondents used in this study are less than 40 years of age and this indicates the youthfulness in the category of the respondents used in this study. An indication that they are current with the happenings in the food and beverages industry in Nigeria sector in the Nigeria.

4.2 Answers from the Research Question

Research Question One: What is the relationship between economic recession and the agricultural sector in Nigeria?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Positive relationship	16	14.0	14.0	14.0
Valid	Negative relationship	96	86.0	86.0	100.0
	Total	112	100.0	100.0	

From the responses of the respondents as indicated on the table above, we can infer that there is a negative relationship between economic recession and the agricultural sector in Nigeria. That is as about 86 percent of the respondents attests to this.

Research Question Two: How can economic recessions be averted in Nigeria through agriculture?

S/N	Statement	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Decision
1	Empowering the unemployed through farming	112	2.5321	.36440	Accepted
2	Provision of agricultural jobs for the unemployed	112	2.6788	.78210	Accepted
3	Educating the unemployed on how to be self-employed in agriculture	112	2.7766	.32454	Accepted
4	Linking the unemployed with jobs opportunities in the agricultural sector	112	2.5667	.89893	Accepted

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5	Increase in government expenditure on agriculture	112	2.5334	1.20605	Accepted
	Valid N (listwise)	112			

From the responses of the respondents as indicated on the table above, it can be inferred that to avert economic recession through agriculture, government should empower the unemployed through farming; provide agricultural jobs for the unemployed; educate the masses on how to be self-employed in agriculture; link the unemployed with job opportunities in the agricultural sector and increases in government expenditure on agriculture. All these are as agreed by the majority of the respondents.

Research Question Three: What is the influence of economic recession in Nigeria?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	High	16	14.0	14.0	14.0
	Moderate	96	86.0	86.0	100.0
	Total	112	100.0	100.0	

From the responses of the respondents as indicated on the table above, we can infer that the influence of economic recession in Nigeria is moderate. That is as about 86 percent of the respondents attests to this.

Research Question Four: What are the causes of economic recession in Nigeria?

S/N	Statement	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Decision
1	poor government expenditure	112	2.6324	.36440	Accepted
2	bad economic policies	112	2.6213	.78210	Accepted
3	low purchasing power	112	2.6544	.32454	Accepted
4	low manufacturing output	112	3.1234	.89893	Accepted
5	dwindling revenue	112	2.6453	1.20605	Accepted
	Valid N (listwise)	112			

From the responses of the respondents as indicated on the table above, it can be inferred that the causes of economic recession in Nigeria include but not limited to poor government expenditure; bad economic policies; low purchasing power; low manufacturing output and dwindling government revenue. All these are as agreed by the majority of the respondents.

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4.3 Test of Hypothesis

Ho₁: There is no significant relationship between economic recession and household involvement in agricultural activities in Nigeria.

Decision rule: Reject the null hypothesis if the Asymp level of significant is less than 0.05. Otherwise, do not reject the null hypothesis.

Table 4.8 Test of hypothesis table one

Test Statistics

	There is no significant relationship between economic recession and household involvement in agricultural activities in Nigeria
Chi-Square	83.876[a]
Df	3
Asymp. Sig.	.030

a. 0 cells (0.0%) have expected frequencies less than 5. The minimum expected cell frequency is 25.0.

Conclusion

Since the Asymp Sig. level of this the test is 0.030 which is far much lower than the 0.05 acceptance region, we therefore reject the null hypothesis and conclude that there is a significant relationship between economic recession and household involvement in agricultural activities in Nigeria.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

This study focused on the effect of economic recession on household's involvement in the agricultural production in Zamfara state. The study was set to address four research objectives and a research hypothesis which include:

i. To identify the relationship between economic recession and agricultural sector in Nigeria

ii. To study how economic recession can be averted in Nigeria through agriculture

iii. To understand the influence of economic recession in Nigeria

iv. To investigate the causes of economic recession in Nigeria

Based on the above stated objective and the study carried out, the following findings were made

i. That there is a negative relationship between economic recession and the agricultural sector in Nigeria.

ii. That to avert economic recession through agriculture, government should empower the unemployed through farming; provide agricultural jobs for the unemployed; educate the masses on how to be self-employed in agriculture; link the unemployed with job opportunities in the agricultural sector and increases in government expenditure on agriculture.

iii. That the influence of economic recession in Nigeria is moderate.

iv. That the causes of economic recession in Nigeria include but not limited to poor government expenditure; bad economic policies; low purchasing power; low manufacturing output and dwindling government revenue.

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5.2 Conclusion

The main purpose of this study is to study the effect of economic recession on Households' involvement in agricultural production in Zamfara State, Nigeria. Four research questions and one research hypothesis guided the study

In this study, a survey research design was adopted, the population comprises all the farmers in Zamfara State, Nigeria, a simple random sampling technique was used to select 112 respondents for the study and a close-ended questionnaire was the instrument for data collection. Relevant literature were reviewed which guided the objectives and methodology of this study. As result of the field study and analysis of results, the following findings were made:

i.   That there is a negative relationship between economic recession and the agricultural sector in Nigeria.

ii.   That to avert economic recession through agriculture, government should empower the unemployed through farming; provide agricultural jobs for the unemployed; educate the masses on how to be self-employed in agriculture; link the unemployed with job opportunities in the agricultural sector and increases in government expenditure on agriculture.

iii. That the prevalence of economic recession in Nigeria is moderate.

iv.   That the causes of economic recession in Nigeria include but not limited to poor government expenditure; bad economic policies; low purchasing power; low manufacturing output and dwindling government revenue.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are made:

i.   Government should do enough to end the recession to reduce the hardship being felt by the people.

ii.   Government should ensure that professionals are allowed to manage the economy.

iii. There should be an improvement in improved security, infrastructure and employment for teaming populace in the Nigeria.

iv.   Government should increase expenditure especially in the agricultural sector and ensure prompt payment of salary to reduce the effect of the recession on the masses.

Recommendation for further studies

Having known that there is negative relationship between economic recession and household involvement in agricultural production.

1. I recommend that research will now further research especially in finding appropriate measures that can control economic recession.

2. Also i recommend other researchers to embark on research that find ways in which household involvement in agricultural production can be improve.

3. Agricultural production comprises of many sub-sectors such as crop production, fishery and livestock. Researchers also need to analyze which of the sub-sectors contribute mostly to household.

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QUESTIONNAIRE

FEDERAL UNIVERSITY GUSAU

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Dear, Respondents,

I am an undergraduate student of Federal University Gusau, Zamfara State conducting research on the effect of economic recession on household's involvement in agricultural production in Zamfara state, Nigeria.

It will be most appreciated if you kindly respond to the attached questionnaire. The information provides will be used strictly for academic purpose in partial fulfillment of B.SC Economics and will be handled with outmost confidentially. Please tick as appropriate.

Yours Faithfully.

BAWAALLAH ADAM

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

(1) Marital status

a. Married [ ]

b. Single [ ]

c. Widowed [ ]

d. Separated [ ]

e. Divorced [ ]

(2) Age

a. Below 20 years [ ]

b. 21-30 years [ ]

c. 31-40 years [ ]

d. 41 years and above [ ]

(3) Highest Academic Qualification

a. Primary [ ]

b. Secondary [ ]

c. Tertiary [ ]

d. Others [ ]

SECTION B: THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS

(5) What is the relationship between economic recession and agricultural sector in Nigeria?

Positive relationship [ ]

Negative relationship [ ]

No relationship [ ]

(6) How can economic recession be averted in Nigeria through agriculture?

S/N		SD	D	A	SA
1	Empowering the unemployed through farming				
2	Provision of agricultural jobs for the unemployed				
3	Educating the unemployed on how to be self-employed in agriculture				
4	Linking the unemployed with jobs opportunities in the				

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	agricultural sector				
5	Increase in government expenditure on agriculture				

(7) What is the influence of economic recession in Nigeria?

High [ ]

Moderate [ ]

Low [ ]

(8) What are the causes of economic recession in Nigeria?

S/N		SD	D	A	SA
1	poor government expenditure				
2	bad economic policies				
3	low purchasing power				
4	low manufacturing output				
5	dwindling revenue				

Thanks for your time.