

# THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN LAVUN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

*A CASE STUDY OF KUTIGI*

**B Y**

<i>NAME</i>	<i>EXAM NO</i>	<i>DEPT.</i>
JOSEPH Y. JIYA	AS/4132	SOS/C.R.S
ASIHA USMAN (MRS)	AS/4058	ISS/SOS
MAIMUNA ALIYU MRS	AS/4063	SOS/ISS
SAUDATU BABADOKO	AS/4053	SOS/ISS
HAUWA M. Y. IMAM	LA 3922	ENG SOS

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR AWARD OF  
NIGERIA CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION (N. C. E.)

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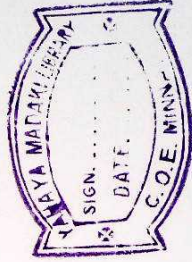
AUGUST, 2001

APPROVAL SHEET

This project has been read and approved for the Award of Nigeria Certificate in Education under the guide of our supervisor in the department of Social Studies, College of Education, Minna, Niger state.

Sign:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Project supervisor  
Mr. Joseph Yisa

Date: 8/1/2002



Sign: \_\_\_\_\_  
Head of Department  
Mrs. Diamond Preye Ogidi

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to the parents and families of all those who carry out the project.

Special thanks to the people who have supported this project since its beginning. We are highly appreciative of the support of all the people that have supported our research project. A special thank you to the parents who have supported us financially and helped us in the process of the project.

Special thanks to our supervisor Mr. Joseph Viss whose support and help helped us in the completion of this research project. He offered us useful suggestions and went through several versions of the original manuscript.

Special thanks to the Head of Department Mr. Diamonda Moyo Dindi, Dean of art and social sciences Mr. Gervase Mwanza and also all lecturers of social studies department. We also give a big thanks to our mother and sister. Their widow's support contributed greatly to the success of this project.

Our appreciation also goes to our family friends. They also contributed to the success of this research project. There are other who in one way or other contributed to the success of this research work but space will not permit the mentioning of their names, we say you are wonderful.

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First of all, our sincere appreciation goes to the most high god, the owner and giver of life and all other good things of life who saw us through the completion of this research work and our program in college of education Minna, Niger State. His provision and protection since this beginning whole life is highly appreciated, our indebtedness to all the people that made our research project a success, hoping the list is our parents who gave us their financial support and most of the moral banking we needed.

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## ABSTRACT

This study is aimed at investigating the economic development in Lavun Local Government. The project is divided into five Chapters.

The first chapter contains the General introduction,, statement of the problems, objective of study, limitations of study and definition of terms.

Review of related literature is contained in the second chapter.

Chapter three contains Procedure for collecting data.

Then chapter four contains Analysis and interpretation of data.

The last chapter contains summary and conclusion, Bibliography and the questionnaire used.

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### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

## CHAPTER II

### PROCEDURAL FOR COLLECTING DATA

## CHAPTER III

### ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS OF DATA

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#### INDUSTRY

#### EXPANSION OF AGRICULTURE

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INTRODUCTION

Local government has been defined as the

The system of government which is established in order to

The average local government in the world today is fairly reliable. It commences its work with a clear plan of operation is defined into eight or ten years. It is usually financed in some cases. The local government is blessed with an ample supply of funds and with fairly reliable and well distributed income. The local government is an agricultural area. The main crop is guinea corn. The local government is primarily agricultural. The main crop is guinea corn, which is the main source of income.

Guinea corn is both used for food and for animal feed. Other crops include rice, beans, etc. In addition to growing crops, the people also keep stock of various kinds of sheep and goats. Poultry are also kept.

Apart from agriculture, the people are engaged in various forms of occupation. These include small scale trading, petty business of local goods and craft making etc.

Transportation is also a major factor contributing to the economic development of the people. The main mode of transportation is by road.



## CHAPTER 1

# THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN LAVUN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

## INTRODUCTION

Lavun local government lies within  $9^{\circ}$  to  $10^{\circ}$  North of the Equator.

The approximate area of the Local government is about  $3,319\text{Km}^2$  but this is based on an estimate because there is no record.

The average annual temperature is about  $35^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The rainfall is fairly reliable. It commences in early April and last for about seven months (that is between late April and late October but extend to early November in some cases). The total annual rain is about 127mm. Lavun local government is blessed with an extensive agricultural land and with fairly reliable and well distributed rainfall. One can say that the local government is an agricultural area. This means that the economy of the local government is primarily agricultural. The main crop grown in this location is Guinea corn, which is the main staple food of the people.

Guinea corn is both food and cash crop. Groundnut is also grown. Other crops include rice, millet, maize and yams. Apart from growing crops, the people also keep livestock's. Some of the livestock's are sheep and goats. Poultry are also kept.

Apart from agriculture, the people also engage in certain forms of occupation. These include small scale manufacturing industries of local goods e.g. craft making etc.

Transportation is also another factor contributing to the economic development of the people. The main form of transportation is by road.

The population of the local government is shown below, based on the 1991 census and the projection made.

<b>Year</b>		<b>Population</b>
1991	-	26,496
1992	-	36,525
1993	-	37,483
1994	-	38,374
1995	-	39,334
1996	-	40,317.

**SOURCE:** - Niger State Statistical year book 1994.

### **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

In view of the fact that, there is no written record on the economic development of Lavun Local Government, this then calls for a need to carry out a study on the economic development of the local government.

### **OBJECTIVE OF STUDY**

The main objective of study is look at the factors that contribute to the economic development of the local government and the problems hampering the development. Attempt will also be made to give some possible suggestions or solutions.

### **LIMITATION OS STUDY**

Although the local government consists of many villages, this study is limited to five villages. These are Kutigi, Doko, Egbanti, Gaba and Batati. This is because of the relative ease of collecting data and also the similarities of the economy and their nearness.

**DEFINITION OF TERMS.**

**ZUKUN:** - It is a type of hoe used for making ridges. Mainly Nupe people use it.

**DUGBA:** - This is another hoe, which is for weeding

**MUNGE:** - It is a local wine found in palm trees.

**EGEZURU:** - It is another locally prepared wine, it looks brownish and mostly found in Doko and Pati Shaba kolo.

**KULI:** - A type of cake prepared locally from groundnut.

**ENUZAKAMA:** - It is a Union farm cultivated by the people collectively where they clear a fallow area and hire a tractor to plough. They divide among themselves but according to the amount of money deposited by each farmer.

**EGBE:** - This is a kind of communal farm work for elderly people which is free of charge.

## CHAPTER II

## REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

According to Clark and Juray (1975). The economy of Bombali district in Sierra Leone is based on Agriculture mainly. Weaving, local manufacturing industries and small scale industries are also found. This means that the economy of the district is similar to that of Lavun local government.

In Bombali district, nine-tenths of the labour force are engaged in agriculture and the district produces rice, palm oil, cassava, groundnuts, citrus, fruits, vegetables and beef. Shifting cultivation is mainly practiced by small-scale farmers. The extended family is the labour unit of production, the average family approaching twelve including wives, children, blood relations and in-laws. The system and organisation of agriculture in Bombali district is similar to that of Lavun local government, but in some parts of Lavun local government, women don't engage in farming but in livestock keeping.

Money release from the sales of farm product are the main sources of income that the people in these two locations use for the purchase of other food items and also incurred expenses such as marriages and some other ceremonies



The only problem facing agriculture in this district is the level of illiteracy. For example, in 1963 census, only about 2% of Bombali's populations are literate and many rural settlements remain isolated and traditional, this therefore does not only affect agriculture but other types of economy of the people. Such as industries, that is both local manufacturing and small-scale industry. Present Government measures for introducing tractor rental schemes barely affect which rural families who cannot pay for tractor hiring.

Incentive for rural development in the district are mainly related to certain measures that can bridge the gap between current government plans to increase agricultural productivity and the present condition of the peasant farmers.

The same thing applies to Lavun local government in Nigeria, some farmers are too poor to pay for the tractor services and the time given to them to pay back the loan used, is short for an ordinary farmer to cope with.

Thus one can conclude that both Bombali and Lavun local government are under developed and tend to be closely related through situation and quite different environments.

According to (Guy Rouanet, 1987) in 1982, the United States produced nearly half the world's maize. Africa accounted for only 3.5% of

the total, with yields of 1094 kilogramme per hectare, compared with 7185Kg/ha in the United States and 5365 Kg/ha in Europe. The international trade in maize increased seven fold in twenty years and in 1980/1981 amounted to 77 million tons, accounting for 20% of world production. This rapid growth in trade has related to expanding demand for animal feed in industrialized countries such as Japan and the Western European countries and to a maize deficit in the USSR. The leading exporting country is the United States, followed by Argentina, South Africa and Thailand, which between them account for only 20% of the world trade. France which has surplus, exports mainly to other member countries of the European community.

(Reeves, 1939). Reported that disease are identified as one of the major factors that contributes a lot in causing losses in our crops production in this country which applies to that of Lavun local government area in Niger State of Nigeria. It has also been observed by various workers such as Emerson, Beadle (1955) Jenkins (1936) that disease are also agents of crops loss. Various diseases have from time to time been recognised to reduce yield in cultivated crops.

Mangolsdrf (1939) also established some facts about losses in crops due to disease. While the type of losses which result from weed

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competition may vary greatly among crops, depending on weeds species present, climatic, soil factor, and husbandry practices.

Reheha (1933) stated that, the actual crop losses might range from almost negligible to a net crop failure due to weed competition with crop growth. He further confirmed that plant competition is a natural force where by crop and weed plant tend to attain a maximum combined growth and yield, with the development of each species being to some extent at the expense of the other.

Chester (1950) added that these occur when the demand of the plants for moisture, nutrient, light and possibly Carbon dioxide exceed the available supply. He further stated that, competition between crops and weed is usually most severe when the competitive plants are most alike in vegetative habits and demand for resources.

Unil., in Lavun local government, weed possess many growth characteristics and adaptations which enable them to exploit successfully the numerous environmental resources which the crop plants or cultivated crops cannot make use of. So far that the effect of weeds is very great in crops production. They reduce yield, and causes heavy loss.



## SEED TREATMENT

In order to protect the seeds from soil pests and birds before or after germination, it is recommended that seeds for planting should be dressed with the appropriate dressing chemicals prior to planting. This will ensure a high percentage germination and hence the attainment of good plant population and high yield.

## CROPS PEST AND CONTROL

- i. Army Worms: - these pests eat young plants, they can destroy the crops if uncontrolled. Control by spraying the crops with chemical pest controls. E.g. maize "Vetox 85"
- ii. Stem bores: - These are insects, which bore into stems or eat the growing point of crops. They attack the late crop particularly. Dusting with Eudrin or methyl parathion will kill most of the insects. Infected plants should be burnt. Crop rotation will reduce the incidence of the pest.
- iii. Field-to-store pest e.g. maize weevils, sap beetle: - These are pest of stored maize. Storing maize cobs in the rafter of a smoky room will prevent these pest attack. In silos, grains should be dusted with Gammalin 20, or Liodane dust, or iodo fen plus or pirimiphos methyl may be used to protect stored grain (Komolafe 1979).

## HARVESTING METHOD OF CROPS

When the crops are grown for silage it should be harvested when the grains are just mature.

Crops may be harvested either by hand, if necessary, or an American hook, or by machine, which depend on the part to be harvested. That is ears or grains directly. (Anochili, 1978).

## CHAPTER III

## PROCEDURES FOR COLLECTING DATA.

The data was collected using questionnaire, but because most of the people involved were illiterates, interview method from the questionnaire prepared, and interpreted, and the result or opinions given is written down. The few literate among them expressed their opinions verbally or written.

Fifty people were involved in the study. The data is interpreted in simple statistics which is inform of percentages.

1. What type of implement do you use in farming?
2. What type of crop do you grow?
3. How do you use your crops?
4. For how long have you being using fertilizer?
  - (a) 1 to 5 years (b) 6 to 10 years (c) 10 to 15 years (d) No used at all (e) over 20 years.
5. Has there been any improvement in the production when you use fertilizer
  - (a) Yes (b) No
6. Are you visited by agricultural extension officers (a) yes (b) No.
7. What means of transport did you use?
  - (a) Animal transportation (b) Motor vehicles
8. What type of livestock do you keep?
9. If motor vehicles are being used, since when have they been coming to this area? (a) 1 to 5 years (b) 6 to 10 years (c) 10 to 15 years
10. What are the obtainable locally made goods in this area?
  - Weaving (b) part making (c) Black smitting.

11. Are they much that are sent to some areas? (a) Yes (b) No.
12. Do you have market here? (a) Yes (b) No.
13. How many days interval does the market hold?
14. When do people start streaming to the market (a) 9-0am (b) 12 to 10 O'clock
15. What types of commodities do you get?
16. How do you rear your livestock?
  - (a) do you allow them to go about
  - (b) do you have a particular place for keeping them.

### METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH

In the process of research on this topic the researchers of this project have gone far using different methods to get or collect some information from the public in order to make the finding comprehensive, reliable and okay.

The methods used include: -

1. Oral interview
  2. Use of questionnaire
  3. Field observation at various villages in the local government.
1. **ORAL INTERVIEW:** - The oral interview was conducted and collected verbally from the people in the local government. The people at Kutigi, Doko, Gaba and Dabban. The responses were interpreted in simple statistics which is in the form of percentage.
  2. **USE OF QUESTIONNAIRE:** - The questionnaires were brought and shared or distributed to elites in the communities, villages, in the schools and the establishments for some information on how Lavun local government is developed.

The questionnaire contains sixteen (16) question with both open and closed types which demand free and some more elastic responses from the respondents. About hundred questionnaire were recorded and returned.

- 3. FIELD OBSERVATION AT VARIOUS VILLAGES:** - The researchers visited villages such as Dabban, Doko, Gaba, Boku, Batati which form part of the most groups being observed at various development in most communities and establishment and took part in struggling to acquire chances for some children and elders at their home to enable them obtain a well developed.

## CHAPTER IV

### ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

#### AGRICULTURE

Out of the total number of people interviewed in Lavun local government area, about 98% of the labour force are peasant farmers. This is because the local government is having an extensive agricultural land suitable for the dominant crops, that is Guinea corn. Also about 48 out of the 50 interviewed that is 96% of the respondents used crude agricultural implements like hoes, cutlasses and axes.

In terms of crops, generally guinea corn is the dominant crop, because about 95% of the farmers engaged in guinea corn cultivation. Groundnut is also widely grown, the other crops are rice, Yams, maize, millet, etc.

In terms of cash, guinea corn has been acting as both cash and food crops. In the past, groundnuts have been over taken by guinea corn because ground nut have low price at the same time ground nut is laborious in the process of growing. Also ground nut can not be stored for a long time so that any time the farmer need it, he can sell them but can not determined the price. Another reason why the crop is facing a rapid decline in cultivation is lack of market, especially in the case of groundnut which is prone to diseases.

## IMPLEMENTS

About 96% of the farmers still use crude implements in their cultivation. The machete, hoes, 'zukun' and axe have been much more common than machineries and there has been limited use of fertilizer and insecticides despite their high returns.

## EXPANSION OF AGRICULTURE

The expansion of agriculture in the local government is mainly by farmers and this could only be done by availability of money and the sources of money is mainly through co-operative societies.

Lack of capital: - farmers use to get loans either from the business men or their colleagues, that is the well to do farmers. about three years ago twenty-five farmers benefited from the government loan.

There have been improvement in equipment five years ago and is only effective in area like Doko, Kutigi and Dabban. Tractors have been used but mainly by farmers leaving in villages listed above because the villages are along the roads, only Dabban which is not along the main road.

There are four unions and two co-operative societies available to farmers, where the farmers used to contribute money and hire tractors. Such unions at Kutigi, Doko and Gaba. Looking at the above, the farmers are going to benefit from the unions because the tractors tend to ease the problems of manual ploughing. The farmers economy will also improve because there will be abundant of ploughed land, hence producing more food for the growing population in the local government.

Another type of farming association is what the people call 'Enu-Zakama' where the people clear a vast area of land and hire a tractor to prepare the land. This land is divided among the farmers in accordance

with the money contributed by each family. This association is of great help the farmers who have hence improving the economy of the local government and boosting food production. This type of association exist at Doko, Kutigi and Gaba.

The development of agriculture also started about fifteen years ago when most of the farmers became aware of the importance of fertilizer. Fertilizer has been existence for along time but it started functioning well when the Government started sending agricultural extension officer who advice the farmers on the type of fertilizer to apply to a particular crop and the best method to use in the application of the fertilizer. There are about five agricultural extension officers in the local government. Before the advent of the agricultural extension officers, the farmers were facing serious problems because they did not know the type of fertilizer to apply to which type of crop.

Another sign of improvement in agriculture is through the use of improved seeds in this area. Chemicals for pest control is almost absent in this local government because the farmers have no knowledge of their application and there is no money to purchase the chemical.

There is no effective management in this area, because about 99% of the farmers are illiterate. And in order to boost agriculture, the farmers have got to have a thorough knowledge of modern agricultural practices and should at least be able to read instructions. In addition, in order to improve agriculture the local government through the help of the state government has embarked on road constructions to link the farmers living in the interior to the ready market so as to make it possible for tractors to pass and other modern transportation systems to carry the harvested product from the villages.



Apart from farming, the farmers also keep livestock, goats, sheep, donkeys and they also keep poultry. Goat is the main livestock reared for commercial purposes. Some of the farmers use to take their goats to the south for sale and the money is used for buying more goats, the profit goes to the farm for improvement but this is limited to the well-to-do farmers. Some farmers keep goat for prestige, for example the type of goat called 'Busuru' is kept by chiefs and title holders among the Nupe tribe, they count their wealth in terms of goats each possess.

Sheep are kept for meat and cash, Some of the sheep in the local government are sold especially during sallah and Christmas respectively, where they are in high demand. Some animals are used for rituals.

The fulanis within the local government rear cattle but they hardly settle permanently in a place. They move in sympathy with the season.

From the above one can see that form of agriculture like shifting cultivation and pastoral farming, nomadism though well adapted to the physical environment, are associated with relatively sparse population because they are not intensive and the yields are low. Despite this it is mainly farming and livestock rearing that help in swelling up the local government economy. However the local government experience the contrasts and disharmony between modern and traditional sectors of these economic which have been termed dualistic.

## INDUSTRY

Industries in this area are mainly small scale industries and local manufacturing industries which prevail in lavun local government.

The first small scale industry which contributed chiefly to the economy of the local government is grinding machine which is found almost in every village in the area of the local government. At Kutigi there are nine and at Doko there sixteen. The main things grinded are guinea corn which is the staple food stuff of the people. Groundnut is also grinded because it is used for making local groundnut cake called "Kuli" and in the process of making the "Kuli" groundnut oil is also extracted. Bambara nut and beans are also grinded for making cake.

This grinding machine is easier than the former method of grinding, which is too laborious and time consuming, where stones are used.

Another small-scale industry found in the local government is petrol selling. These industries contribute immensely to the economy of the local government. Petrol selling stations are found at Kutigi, Doko and Kuci. There are also such industries at certain villages where at least two or three drums of petrol are found. These industries have solve the problems of petrol where formally people have to travel to Bida.

An another important small-scale industry is Bakery. Bakery is found at Beri. There are also Bakeries at Kutigi, Dabban and Doko.

Block making is also found but the main blocks are that of mud brick. These have little or no quality. Slaughtering industry is also found, almost in every village. The butchers have their head called "Etsu naka".

Apart from small scale industry, locally manufactured goods are also found in lavun local government area. The main traditional industries are weaving, drying, black milting and pottery. With the exception of pottery

industry, which is usually with respect to clay pots and streams, other industries are invariably carried out in family compounds.

In black smiting the people make hoes e.g Dugba, Zukun, Gada and Egbaa. These are mainly used on farms, local knives are also made. The manufactured good are sold mainly within the local government.

In weaving, only women roll and spin raw cotton and use the locally prepared blue and brown dyes, although there is tendency for the dying and making up of garment to be more restricted than the weaving. And also locally farm is weave in Kutigi.

There are also tailors, carpenters, watch repairers, repairers of motor cycles and bicycles and other petty jobs are found in the local government.

Palm wine tapping, is also practiced in some parts of the local government. Local wine called "Ege-zuru", Ogoforo are brewed. Nupe people in Doko and Patishabakolo brew ege-zuru, while non-indigenes, mainly Ibos and other southerners settling in the various villages making up the local government brew Ogogoro.

The above industries are markedly concentrated in certain quarters. It was discovered that this concentration seemed to depend more on social structure and organisation rather than economic factors.

These industries contribute immensely to the economic development of the local government because they provide employment and industries, such as petrol selling, grinding machines and pottery provide a lot of money to the local government.

## TRANSPORT

There are two (2) types of transportation system in the local government. These are road and water transport. Water transport is mainly found at the villages living around or on the opposite side of a river. Road transport in this area contributes immensely to the economy of the people because it forms an important sector for investment, it gives considerable scope for local entrepreneurs activity and investment of small saving. Road transport in this local government links population concentrated area with rural area and others.

It serves as market for passengers and foreign mainly on local basis but over considerable distances. Road provides the ideal medium for economic development and integration and while it sometimes operates in completion with other media, its prime functions has been latent demand in accessible areas not served by other forms of transport.

Despite the above functions of road transportation in Lavun local government most of the roads are seasonal, only the federal trunk 'A' road from Kutigi is used successfully all the year round.

During the raining season, these roads become slippery and muddy and although the surface is best rolled and reated during this time it is often impossible to get heavy equipment in the local government. Thus during the raining season some areas like Doko and Dabban are isolated, that is they devoid of motor vehicle. The number of commercial vehicle is increasing rapidly in this area, the common ones found are mainly Haice popularly known as bosu and open Toyota which is again called motor eti vunla (Akorikwara).

Since the number of commercial vehicles is a reflection of the character and distribution of economic activity and availability of other

forms of transport, it is therefore that most of the commercial vehicles are found in the p[population concentrated areas. Rapid urbanization has been a further stimulus to the use of commercial and passenger vehicle in the local government.

These forms of transport contribute to the economy of the local government because it has eased the problem of other forms of transport.

Apart from the above forms of transport about 30% of the population of the local government who are engaged in agriculture still use bicycle for transport. This is mainly found where motor vehicles cannot penetrate to carry the farm product to the market and so they have to use other forms of transport to where they get motor vehicles. It should be noted that water transport is compulsory in the isolated areas during the raining season. Places like Egbagi, Gbara, Mambe and fopko are compelled to use local canoe since there are no bridges across the rivers which is a barrier to motor transport and also impede normal contact with other surrounding villages. Sometime and unopen calabash known as "mangarako" or mänge is used but it is time consuming because it cannot carry more than one or two person at a time and again it is a risk, because the rope can cut and the people may get drowned. Transport is facing great problems in lavun local government. The main problem facing transportation in this area is lack of good roads.

## MARKET

Market plays an important role in the economic development of lavun local government area.

Of all the market in lavun local government none of them is regular, they are all periodic and some of them are seasonal.

About 100% of all the markets have five days interval before the next market hold. Some use to hold on Sundays, Saturdays but those of Fridays are more in number. Below is table showing the market days of each of the villages chosen for study in the local government.

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Busu				Batati	Kutigi	Manbe Danchitagi.

Here in this local government, people start streaming into the market around 9.00a.m to 10.00 a.m. for villages located along the main roads for example Kutigi, Batati and doko. And about 11 to 12 O'clock for villages in the interior.

During the raining season, the situation is different for most of the people are farmers and they work on their farms before they go to the market.

It was found out that population in markets in this local government varies with season and time. Farmers living closely in a particular area normally organize some of the markets and normally wine is sold and some time petty traders go there.

The main commodities brought into this market are mainly farm products because most the inhabitants are farmers.

Of more important and more common are other commodities brought by hausa and yoruba , some time, Oggogoro is brought by the women and other southerners.

The main problems facing market in this local governments lack of good roads that discourages some traders.

## SUMMARY CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The economy of lavun local government depends largely on agriculture, industry, transport and market.

Agriculture is the dominant economic activity of the people. The farmers are mainly peasant farmers. Shifting cultivation is practiced especially among those farmers who do not live in towns. Most of the farm produce are consumed while the remaining part is sold. The development of agriculture has been low because of illiteracy and the crude implements, which is still widely used. Animal rearing is suffering greatly in the local government.

Industry also plays a greater role in the economy of the people. Local manufacturing industries like canoe building, weaving, black smitting and dying and small scale industry like petrol selling, bakery and grinding engine all combine together in swelling the economy of the local government.

Transport, although poorly developed plays apart in economy of the local government. The major transport system is road transport. Some roads are seasonal as a result of poor bridges and other thins which hinders free movement by motors. Water transport is also seasonal.

Of all the markets in the local government none of them seems to hold twice a week. The markets are all periodic and some are seasonal because they used to disappear after the dry season. It can be suggested that for agriculture to be improved in lavun local government, the government has to embark on agricultural education for the farmers which includes methods of cultivation, application of machinery etc. but to do this is to link those people living in the interior location of the local government to enable tractor to penetrate in and to ease the transportation of the farm



produce is water transport is seasonal and is caused by lack of bridges, it will be better if bridges are constructed to ease transportation and produce risking the life of the people.

Industries, both small scale and local manufacturing can be re-organized by the government. Markets can be re-organized to enable the peasant farmers to sell his crop successfully.

From the results of the study, it seems likely that if adequate transport net work is provided to produce the necessary links between the different villages in the local government, the agricultural potentials of the areas will be well developed and this will eventually increase the economic prosperity of the area in particular and the Niger State in general.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

In high lighting of the economic development of lavun local government in area of study. I wish to recommend the following: -

If I might be at position in future, transportation problem, which discourage most farmers in the area of study from producing more would be given due consideration to encourage most of the farmers in the field of large production.

Observation from farm showed certain deficiencies as once they are corrected, the steps or methods to follow began immediately.

Observation from storage problem showed poorly, but thank for the corrections have started based on how to store products properly.

Farmers are advised to use the most common and adaptable varieties recommended for their areas or contact their nearest Agricultural extension workers or officers of the ministry of Agriculture or State Agricultural Development Project of advise on choice of variety, and to consult on any other information required.

Finally, the government should come to the aid of the farmers of Lavun local government area of Niger State by providing them with improved varieties of crops at subsidized rates, fertilizers, roads for easier transportation of their products and lastly Extension services that could be given necessary information to the farmers and also carried their problems

to the researchers. If Government due to development of Agriculture is to achieve maximum development of the farmers in the area of study.